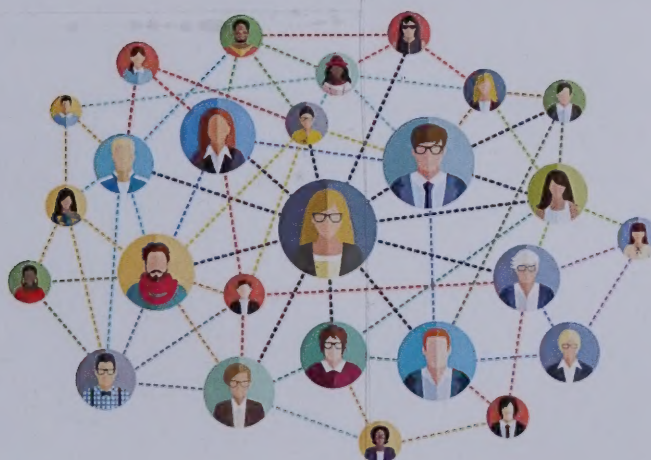


Joyce (Cook) Diehl's

Carnahan Connections

The Irish Side of the Family



**FAMILY
HISTORY
CARNAHAN**

"I thought about the former days, the years of long ago" (Psalm 77:5)

December 25, 2022

Dear Family,

The purpose of this book is to uncover the past by exposing the lives of our Carnahan ancestors. My goal was to track this family back to the original immigrant ancestors, but in this vein, we cannot go back very far before we find the immigrant, or we lose track of them due to absent records.

Of the ancestors that we can track back, they had a mix of occupations: seven farmers, two schoolteachers (in their younger days), one mason, one businessman, and one seamstress.

There were military ancestors, as well: one in the Civil War (union), two in the War of 1812, and one serving in the American Revolution.

Although records of children were always weak in the olden times, of those we do know, the average number of children per family was 5.6.

For those who have left a record of death, for the men the average age of death was 68.7, and the average age of death for women was 69.7, one year longer.

When we can identify the nation of origin of these ancestors, that nation was Ireland in every case, and always from northern Ireland.

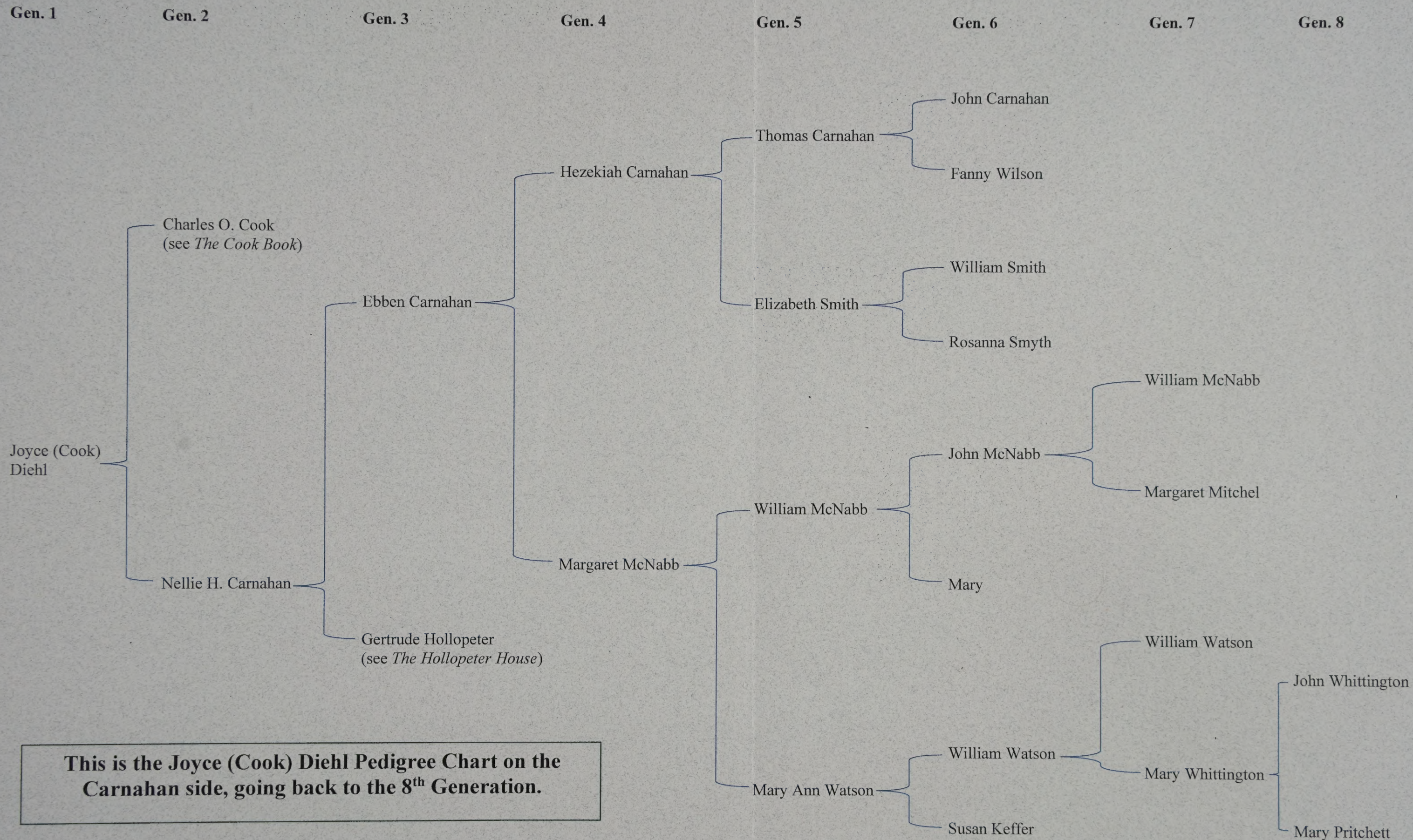
My desire is that you are encouraged by reading these biographies of ordinary people, your ancestors. These are your roots, this is where you come from. Be inspired to leave your own legacy to those you leave behind. These are your *Carnahan Connections*.

Sincerely,



Ralph Diehl
rodiehl@frontier.com
(260) 837-3171





Origins of Our Carnahan Ancestors

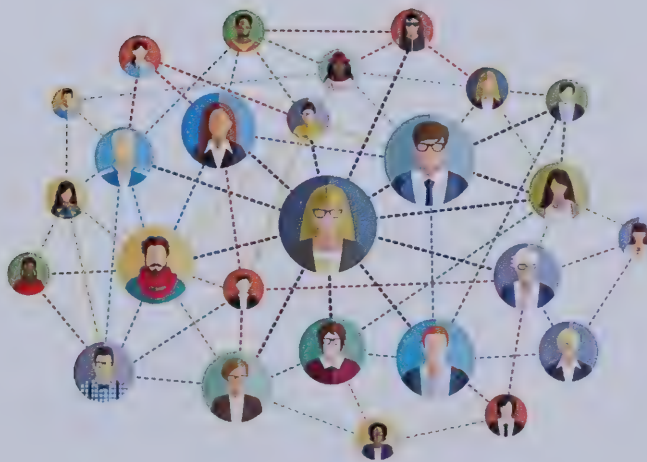


This is a pie chart showing the origin of your Carnahan ancestors. With the exception of Keffer, which may have been Dutch or German, and Whittington, which was likely English or Welsh (neither of which can be proven), the nation of origin for all of your confirmed Carnahan ancestors was Northern Ireland, 100%.

Joyce (Cook) Diehl's

Carnahan Connections

The Irish Side of the Family

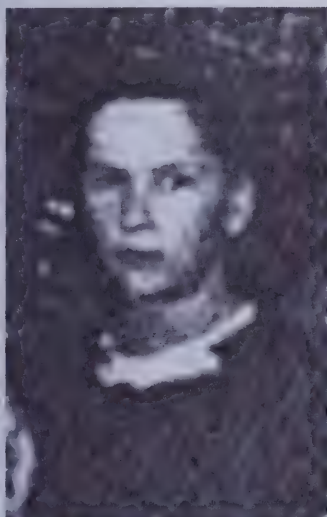


"I thought about the former days, the years of long ago" (Psalm 77:5)

Joyce Nelline (Cook) Diehl (1927-2016)

Joyce Nelline Cook was a simple housewife, seamstress, and mother of six. She was a seamstress by trade, a Girl Scout leader and was active in her local church.

Joyce Nelline Cook was born on 20 January 1927¹ either in or next door to her mother's farmhouse on Carnahan Road in rural Jackson Township in southern DeKalb County, near the Allen County line. She was the fifth of eight children born to DeKalb County farmer Charles Orange Cook (1894-1970) and his second wife, Nellie Hollopeter Carnahan (1899-1941) (see page 5).



Joyce Cook in the 8th Grade, 1941, the year her mother died.

Her father was a poor share cropper who never owned his own land. There were a total of fourteen children born to her father so there was always a houseful and many farm hands. Joyce later recalled that the whole family was engaged in farm chores daily.

Joyce N. Cook was recorded in the 1930 Census as a 3-year-old residing with her parents on a farm they owned (actually owned by her grandmother) on Carnahan

Road in Jackson Township next door to her widowed maternal grandmother, Gertrude Carnahan (see page 9).²

As a child she contracted Typhoid Fever, which nearly took her life. When the fever had passed, she spoke with a stutter which continued the rest of her life (although it did improve with age).

When asked about early Christmas memories, Joyce remembered no Christmas tree, but they did have simple Christmas decorations within the house. She remembered that they were very poor. Evenings were spent around a round wood table with a kerosene lamp in the center.

Once her sister Mary fought with brother Fred at the table. The lamp tipped over and burned Mary badly on her neck and chest.

Joyce Cook was again recorded in the 1940 Census residing with her parents on the rented Widney farm in Concord Township in DeKalb County. She was age 12 and in the 7th Grade in school.³

The following year, 1941, her mother died when she was fourteen years of age and her father soon remarried Velma Glee (Isenbarger) Ross, who became the stepmother who helped raise Joyce.

Joyce was active in working on the farm. She wore her first pair of jeans at age 16. Her father said it was not lady-like for a girl to drive a tractor in a dress.

Joyce felt slighted by her stepmother and she became outspoken at school about her woes. In the school yearbook she willied to an under-classman her ability to share about her family troubles. Joyce graduated from Concord Township (St. Joe) High School in 1945.



Joyce (Cook) Diehl's portrait with son, Ralph, in 1949.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Miss Joyce Cook".

This is Joyce's signature from a return address on a letter to Wilbur in 1943. Note she dotted the 'i' with a circle. And dropped the 'M', 'J' and 'y' way below the line.

¹ Indiana State Board of Health, Certificate of Birth #719.

² 1930 Census of DeKalb County, IN, Jackson Twp., p. 65-A.

³ 1940 Census of DeKalb County, IN, Concord Twp., p. 22-A.

When World War II began, the male work force began to dwindle. Joyce got a job at Messenger Corporation in Auburn boxing greeting cards and rented a room in town. She began corresponding with a Navy serviceman named Wilbur Diehl, and they married after the war. That war struck close to Joyce, as her brother, Don, served with a tank recovery unit in Europe, her brother, Carl, was killed on Iwo Jima,⁴ and her sister, Violet's, husband, John Harter, lost an eye and both legs at Anzio in Italy.

Joyce married Wilbur O. Diehl on 1 June 1946 at her parents' home in Concord Township in southern DeKalb County. Her stepmother had the main room wallpapered for the occasion, which "quite surprised" Joyce.

Wilbur O. Diehl was the son of Butler jeweler James G. Diehl (1880-1963) and Lana Dirrim (1883-1955) (see my books *Better Land: A Resettlement of German Refugees*⁵,



The Wilbur Diehl Family in 1989. From left to right: Nancy, Pamela, Thomas, Joyce, Wilbur, Ralph, Diana, and Penny Diehl. The photo was taken at Tom's wedding.

and *Dirrim Discoveries*⁶). He served his time in the US Navy defending the Naval Air Station at Attu, Alaska (the closest US point to Japan), and as an LCT (Landing Craft, Tank) pilot in the South Pacific off the Mariana Islands after the war.⁷

Joyce and Wilbur were parents of six children together: Ralph Oren, Diana June, Pamela Kaye, Thomas Kenton, Nancy Ann, and Penny Sue Diehl.

Joyce and Wilbur purchased a home at 513 E. Main Street in Butler in 1946. There they lived and raised their children until inheriting the home of Wilbur's father, James G. Diehl, in 1963.

Joyce was a seamstress and made clothes for each of her children and grandchildren. She also made miniature clothes for dolls that she marketed through the Five-and-Ten Cent Store in town each Christmas.



This is Joyce (Cook) Diehl in 1953 (left) and in 1974 (right). Notice the added glasses.



Joyce is pictured here in 1985 (left), and in 2000 (right).

⁴ Diehl, Ralph O., *Carl Cook: A Marine's Story*, Waterloo, IN, 2015.

⁵ Diehl, Ralph O., *Better Land: A Resettlement of German Refugees*, Waterloo, IN, 2018, p. 9-14.

⁶ Diehl, Ralph O., *Dirrim Discoveries*, Waterloo, IN, 2020, p. 1-4.

⁷ Diehl, Ralph O., *Our Parents in World War II*, Waterloo, IN, 2010.

For 17 years Joyce worked for the Dale Fisher Garment Co., located first on the third floor of what is today the ACD museum in Auburn, and later in Ney, Ohio. As a seamstress, she made men's coats, jackets, windbreakers, etc. The company closed in 1972. Then she worked part time for two years for Necia's Exquisite Styling, near Waterloo, where she did custom alterations for wedding dresses and wedding parties. After that she did custom sewing, from mending and alterations to wedding dresses.⁸ She also made wedding dresses for her daughters and other relatives.

Her daughter Penny remembered that "she bought a teddy bear pattern at the five and ten and made stuffed teddy bears with the stuffing and fur for kids in the hospital."⁹

When her daughters were younger, she was a Girl Scout leader and invested in the lives of young girls in the Butler Community.

Early in adulthood she had multiple dental issues and had her teeth removed and dentures installed.



This is Joyce in 2013 while residing at Smith Farms Manor.

The family vacationed yearly in Michigan. And, in retirement, they owned a small trailer on Navoo Lake, northwest of Kendallville, where they enjoyed fishing.

Joyce joined the Butler Church of Christ when she first married Wilbur. She later left with a church split to join Christ's Community Church in Butler, where she played piano.

In the middle 1970s she received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and exploded with interest in spiritual things. She transferred membership to New Hope Christian Center in Waterloo, where she taught children's classes, sang with the choir, participated in musical outreaches and sewed children's clothes for the poor in the Dominican Republic. She continued in that church until her death.



This is the Wilbur and Joyce Diehl gravestone in the Butler Cemetery just out of Butler, Indiana. Note that her birth year was erroneously etched as 1926 (actually was 1927).

She suffered from several health problems from high blood pressure, high cholesterol, a heart valve replacement, a hip replaced in 1985, and heart disease.

Wilbur died on 12 December 2008. Unable to care for their property by herself, she became a resident of Smith Farms Manor, an Assisted Living Facility in Auburn, Indiana. She became the resident seamstress doing alterations for the residents, which gave her a sense of purpose and a little spending money.

She later became a resident of Laurel's of DeKalb Nursing Home in Butler, Indiana. She had a swallowing issue they were monitoring, and she was on a soft diet.

She died there in 2016 at the age of 89 following a massive stroke.

⁸ Class of 1945: 50-Year Reunion Book, St. Joe High School, 1995.

⁹ Email from Penny (Diehl) Slone, 11 February 2020.

Carnahan Connections

**Second Generation
(Parents)**



Nellie Hollopeter (Carnahan) Cook (1899-1941)

Nellie Hollopeter Carnahan was a simple farmer's wife and taught in the one-room township country school system. She had eight children and raised two step-children.

Nellie Hollopeter Carnahan was born on 17 April 1899 on her father's farm in rural Jackson Township in southern DeKalb County, Indiana.

She was the oldest of four daughters born to DeKalb County farmer Ebben Thomas Carnahan (1871-1930) and Ellen Gertrude Hollopeter (1872-1949) (see page 9). Her parents were both educators in the township school system and Nellie followed suit. She was teaching in a Jackson Township country school in 1920.



Nellie Carnahan at about age 8. Note the high-top shoes and her love for puppies.

Nellie H. Carnahan was recorded in the 1900 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana at age 1. She was living on the rented farm with her parents in Jackson Township.¹⁰ Nellie H. Carnahan was also recorded in the 1910 Census at age 10 and attending school, residing on her parents' farm they were working next door to her paternal grandfather, Hezekiah L. Carnahan in Jackson Township.¹¹

20-year-old Nellie Carnahan was next recorded on 13 January in the 1920 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, residing at home on the family farm with her parents, Eben [sic] and Gertrude Carnahan in Jackson

Township. She was employed as a Teacher in a country school.¹² A few houses away was the Jay Lochner farm



This is Nellie Carnahan's photo as a public school teacher in 1919.

where a young, widowed Charles Cook was working as a hired hand.¹³

Later that same year, Charles remarried Nellie Hollopeter Carnahan on 3 April 1920.¹⁴ Ebben's obituary erroneously records the date as 4 April 1928. The wedding occurred at Nellie's parents' home and was officiated by Rev. C. M. Hollopeter, Nellie's uncle.¹⁵

Charles Orange Cook was born 26 July 1894 near Spencerville, Indiana in DeKalb County. He was the 6th of eleven children born to John Jerome Cook (1856-1915) and Mary E. Fields (1861-1926) (see *The Cook Book*).¹⁶ Charles had previously been married to Bonnie Belle



This is Charles Cook and Nellie Carnahan at their wedding in 1920.

¹⁰ 1900 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 284-B.

¹¹ 1910 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 80-A.

¹² 1920 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 72-B.

¹³ 1920 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 72-A.

¹⁴ Indiana Marriages, 1810-2001.

¹⁵ *The Wedding Garland*, wedding book of Nellie Carnahan, 1920.

¹⁶ Diehl, Ralph O., *The Cook Book*, 2021, p. 6).

Church (1898-1918), who died following a surgery. Nellie became a stepmother to Charles's two sons from his first marriage, Robert and Walter Cook.

Charles and Nellie were the parents of eight children together: Wayne Edward, Donald Charles, Violet Ruth, Carl Russell, your ancestor Joyce Nelline (1927-2016) (see page 1), David Frederick, Beverly Jean, and Mary Gertrude Cook.

In an article in the *St. Joe News*, we learn that they lived near Hopewell, a rural community in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana in 1926.¹⁷

Charles O. and Nellie H. Cook are recorded in the 1930 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, residing next door to Nellie's recently widowed mother, Gertrude E. Carnahan (see page 9) on the Carnahan Road. Charles's oldest son, Robert, was staying with his Grandma Carnahan. Charles was age 35 and Nellie was 30. He was working as a farmer. Also residing in this home were stepson Walter M., and their own children, Wayne O. [sic], Donald C., Violet R., Carl R. (9), Joyce N. (3), and David F. (1).¹⁸

Between 1920 and 1937 (except for a period around 1930) Charles and Nellie lived on unknown rental farms. Nellie's obituary says she spent all but one year of her life in DeKalb County, implying they farmed in nearby Allen County for one year.

Their daughter, Joyce, recalled that her mother was frustrated that young Joyce would mess her pants. They cleaned her up with a water hose and straw broom, and it never happened again.¹⁹



This is Nellie and her children in about 1930. Sitting on the running board are (left to right): Nellie, Wayne, Carl, and Don. In front are Violet, Joyce (on tricycle), and Fred Cook.

On 2 February 1935 tragedy visited this family as their 3-year-old daughter, Beverly Jean, died of bronchial pneumonia due to contracting the Measles.²⁰

The family moved to the rental Widney farm in Concord Township in the summer of 1937. Here they had a major dairy operation, and raised various kinds of farm animals, in addition to working the land. Being a farm mother, she was certainly busy processing food for her large family.

The stock market crash that ushered in the Great Depression, which lasted from 1930-1941, ruled out the possibility that Charles would ever own his own farm. He continued on as a tenant farmer the rest of his life, having little saved up at retirement.

Charles O. and Nellie Cook were next recorded in the 1940 Census of DeKalb County, residing on the rented farm in Concord Township. Charles was working as a Farmer and had worked 52 weeks out of the previous year. With the milking operation, family vacations were not feasible. He was 46 and Nellie was 41. Children recorded in the home were



This is the last known photo of Nellie, taken about 1941.

¹⁷ *St. Joe News*, 11 November 1926.

¹⁸ 1930 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 65-A

¹⁹ Joyce Diehl interview, about 2000.

²⁰ Certificate of Death, #4292, Local No. 10.

Wayne (18), Donald (17), Violet (16), Carl (14), Joyce (12), Fred (10), and Mary (5) Cook.²¹

This family were members at the Newville Church of Christ where they were all very active, Charles serving as a Deacon. Faith played a major role in this family.

In 1941 this rental farm was identified as 2 ½ miles northeast of St. Joe, Indiana.²² Nellie had a stroke due to a Cerebral Hemorrhage on 1 February and died 8 days later on 9 February 1941. Her sister, Jessie Clark, a nurse, cared for her during that illness. Her place of death was the Widney farm in Concord Township. The cause of death was a paralytic stroke. She was 41 years, 9 months, and 23 days old. This left Charles a widower with seven minor children to care for.²³

She is buried in the Scipio Cemetery in Allen County.

In 1942, as World War 2 was expanding the US economy, Charles Orange Cook registered for the military draft. He was residing in rural St. Joe, and was 5'9" tall, 152 pounds, blue eyes, black hair, and a ruddy complexion at age 48.²⁴ Although he did not serve in that war, two of their sons did. Don worked in a tank recovery unit in Europe, and Carl was killed by a sniper on Iwo Jima the day after the island was declared liberated.²⁵

Ten months later, on 3 December 1942, Charles remarried Velma Glee (Isenbarger) Ross (1908-1991), who was the recent widow of William Clarence Ross. Velma had two daughters she brought to this marriage: Delores Jane and Gladys Mae Ross.

Together, Charles and Velma had another four children together: Roger Lee, Charlene Opal, Illa Rose, and Keith Leon Cook. This was a total of 14 children born to Charles Cook.



Nellie is buried next to her husband, Charles Cook, in the Scipio Township Cemetery near Georgetown.

²¹ 1940 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Concord Twp., p. 22-A.

²² *The Newville Bugler*, April 1945.

²³ Certificate of Death, #4427, Local No. 11.

²⁴ World War 2 Military Draft card, 27 April 1942.

²⁵ Diehl, Ralph O., *Carl Cook: A Marine's Story*, Waterloo, IN, 2016.

Carnahan Connections

**Third Generation
(Grandparents)**



Ebben Thomas Carnahan (1871-1930)

Ebben Thomas Carnahan was a schoolteacher, and then farmer, in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. He was a country fiddler and census taker in 1900. His wife, Gertrude, was our first ancestor to attend college. They were the parents of five daughters.

Ebben Thomas Carnahan was born 13 January 1871 in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. He was the 3rd of four sons born to Civil War veteran Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan (1830-1914) and Margaret A. McNabb (1839-1917) (see page 13).

As a child, he attended Jackson Township School No. 9. Carnahan historian Hugh Carnahan (first cousin) relates, "He grew up like any other farm boy of the time, attended the district school and later taught school for a number of years, spending the summers working on the farm."²⁶

9-year-old Eben [sic] was recorded in the 1880 Census, living on the family farm with his parents and siblings in Jackson Township in DeKalb County and was attending school that year.²⁷

He was likely named after his great uncle Ebenezer McNabb. He was simply known as Ebben, sometimes as E. T., and in the 1910 census as Ebbey.

Ebben T. Carnahan

This is Ebben Carnahan's signature from a census page in 1900. Note that he lifted his pen off the paper twice for his last name.

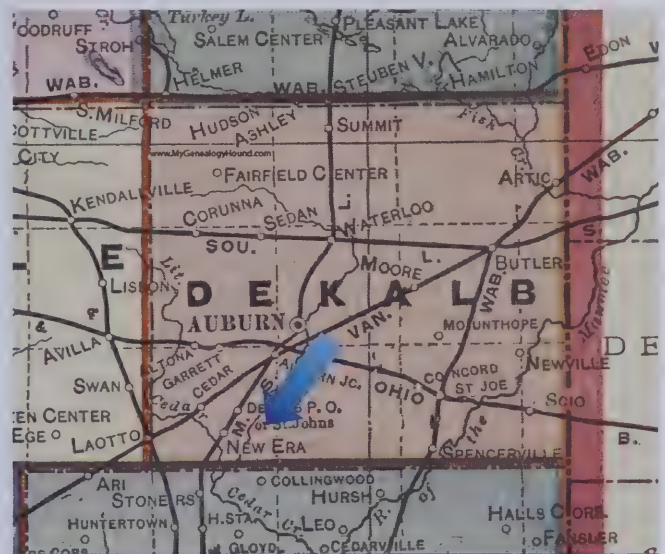
Ebben married Ellen Gertrude Hollopeter on 17 March 1898 in Allen County, Indiana.²⁸ *The Wedding Garland*, the couple's wedding book, observes they were married at the home of the bride, E. Gertrude Hollopeter, of Collingwood, Indiana, by Rev. C. M. Hollopeter, Ellen's brother.²⁹



Ellen Gertrude Hollopeter
in 1890 at age 18.

Ellen was better known as Gertrude, and by family as Gertie. She was born on 7 April 1872 on the family farm in Cedar Creek Township, Allen County.³⁰ She was the fifth of nine children born to Civil War Captain William C. Hollopeter (1833-1913) and Cynthia Moore (1839-1915) (see *The Hollopeter House*) of Cedar Creek Township in Allen County, Indiana. Ebben was brother of William John Carnahan,

who married Ophelia Hollopeter, sister to Gertrude. So, the families remained close as in-laws.



In this 1908 map of DeKalb County, Ebben lived in southern DeKalb County, about two miles north of the present ghost town of Collingwood near where Gertrude was from.

²⁶ Carnahan, Col. Hugh L., *Family Tree of Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan*, Auburn, IN, 1958, p.2

²⁷ 1880 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 180-C.

²⁸ Ridenour, Eva Hollopeter, and Burris, Wanda Hollopeter, *The Hollopeter Family Record*, Hamburg, NY, the Village Printing House, 1958, p. 48.

²⁹ Carnahan, E. Gertrude, *The Wedding Garland*, personalized notes in her wedding book, 1898.

³⁰ Herbert, Jan, *The Hollopeter Brothers and Their Edmonds Wives of Fostoria, Ohio*, Fostoria, OH, 1991.

The *Valley of the Upper Maumee River* says she was a schoolteacher in 1889.³¹ Other sources say she taught for several years. Three of her siblings were educated Methodist ministers, so education and religion were important to the Hollopeters. Gertie had completed two years of college at Fort Wayne Methodist College (forerunner of Fort Wayne Bible College), earning an Associate's Degree, the first of our female ancestors to do so.³²

Ebben Carnahan also was a schoolteacher for a number of years. He taught at Auburn in the 1899/1900 school year.

Ebbey [sic] and Ellen G. Carnahan are recorded in the 1900 Census residing together on a rented farm in Jackson Township, residing next door to Ebben's brother and family, James and Julia Carnahan. Ebben was working as a Teacher in the public school and Ellen was caring for their one-year old daughter, Nellie H..³³

He was the Census Enumerator for Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana in the 1900 Census. He also ran for Constable, as a Republican, in the 1900 election (results unknown).

After his years as a teacher, he became increasingly engaged in farming, and was termed a "prominent farmer" in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, in the *DeKalb County History*.³⁴



The Ebben Carnahan Family ca. 1907. From left to right: Nellie, Belle, Ebben, Gertrude, and Jessie Carnahan. Note the watch around Gertrude's neck and the unbrow on Ebben.

Ebben T. and Ellen G. Carnahan were recorded in the 1910 Census residing on a rented farm in Jackson Township. Ebben was 39 and Ellen was 38. Ebben was working as a Farmer. They had been married for 12 years and Ellen had given birth to four children, all living. Residing with them were Nellie H. (10), Jessie M. (8), M. Belle (6), and Bertha F. (7-months). 47-year year old Fay Douglas was also residing here as a farm hand. The family was living next door to Ebben's father, Hezekiah Carnahan.³⁵

Ebben wore a large straw-colored mustache. "This mustache was also the mark of his brothers, W. J. and Jim, as well as several of his cousins...He read widely, was interested in all the local affairs and developments in farming. He always enjoyed hunting and knew the hills and woods around his home as well as their owners did."

Ebben was also a country fiddler. According to his cousin, Hugh Carnahan, in his Carnahan family history, "Before television, radio, or the wheezy phonograph, winter evenings were long and dull. Anyone who could enliven a country gathering with a few old dance tunes was a welcome addition to the party. No one ever made a fortune at it, but they did get a lot of fun out of playing for these affairs which were not always approved by the good pillars of the church." He probably learned to play from his Uncle Wilson Carnahan.

The Farm Journal printed a Directory of Jackson Township residents in 1919. Ebben T. and Gertrude Carnahan

³¹ *Valley of the Upper Maumee River*, Brant & Fuller, Madison, WI, 1889, p. 341.

³² 1940 Census of Allen Co., IN, Jefferson Twp., p. 136-A.

³³ 1900 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 284-B.

³⁴ Troas, May Wise, and Smith, John Martin, *DeKalb County History*, DeKalb Sesquicentennial, Inc., 1987.

³⁵ 1910 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 80-A.



This is Ebben (upper left) and Gertie Carnahan (upper right) at the 1906 Hollopeter Family Reunion. On his lap are Nellie and Belle. On her lap is Jessie. That's her father, William C. Hollopeter (with beard), in the upper right corner of photo.

were recorded farming 80 acres. Residing in the home were Nellie, Jessie, Belle and Faye.³⁶

Eben [sic] (age 48) and Gertrude Carnahan (47) were again recorded in the 1920 Census residing on the farm they now owned with a mortgage in Jackson Township. Eben was working as a farmer. Residing in the home with them were Nellie (20), Jessy (18), both working as schoolteachers, Belle (16), and Faye (10).³⁷

Gertie was a member of the Methodist Church at New Haven,³⁸ which was founded by her grandfather, Rev. Andrew Hollopeter, Jr. She was a member of the Circle Four of the Women's Society for Christian Service in that church.

It was in 1920 that the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, giving women the same right to vote as the men. Gertie likely voted for Republican candidate Warren G. Harding in that election, since her husband was a Republican.

Ebben died on 27 March 1930 on his farm in Jackson Township of DeKalb County. The official cause of death was a cerebral apoplexy (stroke) with a contributory



This is the Ebben Carnahan family in the early 1920s. Seated on the porch (left-to-right) are unknown, Charles O. Cook, unknown, and Ebben. Seated on the first step are the Carnahan sisters, Belle, Nellie (in front of Charles), Jessie, and Faye. Included among the children were Charles's boys from his first marriage. Note the anticipated Watermelon, probably grown in the family garden. Gertie likely was taking the picture.

factor of arterio sclerosis (hardening of the arteries).³⁹ He was 59 years, 2 months, and 13 days of age. The doctor first attended to Ebben on October 11, 1929, so this was an extended illness.

His obituary states, "Death came as the result of high blood pressure. Mr. Carnahan had not been well for seven years. During the last year he failed rapidly and during the winter he had been unable to be out of the house."⁴⁰

He died on the farm where he was born. Ebben was buried in the Mausoleum at Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn, Indiana.

Gertrude E. Carnahan, recently widowed and now 59, was recorded in the 1930 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, residing on the farm she owned on Carnahan Road in Jackson Township. Residing with her were 20-year-old daughter Fay B. Carnahan, employed as a laborer in an Electrical Mill, and 13-year-old step-grandson Robert V.

³⁶ *Farm Journal Inc.*, Wilmer Atkinson Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1919.

³⁷ 1920 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 72-B.

³⁸ *Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette*, 4 July 1949.

³⁹ Indiana Certificate of Death No. 7352, Local No. 138.

⁴⁰ *Garrett Clipper*, 31 March 1930.



This is Ebben Carnahan's gravemarker in the Mausoleum in Auburn.

Cook, attending school. Renting immediately next door was her married daughter and her family, Charles O. and Nellie H. Cook (see page 5).⁴¹ We can be sure they were a great comfort to Gertie in her loss.

Gertie remained a widow for eight years until she remarried Clement Evard in 1938. Nothing is known of Clement except that he was born in Indiana in 1868.

Clement, age 72, and Gertrude, age 68, Evard were recorded in the 1940 Census residing on a rented farm on RR 2, New Haven, in Jefferson Township in Allen County, Indiana.⁴² Between 1941⁴³ and 1949 they resided on that rented farm near New Haven, Indiana in Allen County.⁴⁴

According to her granddaughter, Joyce (Cook) Diehl, this was not a good marriage and Clement was abusive to Gertie.

Gertie died on 2 July 1949 at the home of her daughter, Faye, in Bryan, Ohio. The cause of her death was "a broken hip and complications," reports her obituary. "Last Jan. 23, she suffered a fractured hip in a fall and was taken to the Lutheran hospital at Fort Wayne, where she was a patient for eight weeks. After release from the hospital, she was taken to the home of her daughter. She



Gertrude's gravemarker is not with Ebben; it's in the IOOF Cemetery in New Haven.

had suffered for the past several months with a heart ailment."

Her obituary continues, "Final rites for Mrs. Gertrude Evard, 77, a former resident of south of Auburn, were conducted at 10 a. m. Tuesday in the Methodist church at New Haven...Rev. Gail Davis officiated at the services Tuesday morning."

Gertie was buried in the IOOF Cemetery at New Haven, Indiana.

⁴¹ 1930 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 65-A.

⁴² 1940 Census of Allen Co., IN, Jefferson Twp., p. 136-A.

⁴³ *St. Joe News*, 1941 issue.

⁴⁴ *The Evening Star*, 10 April 1945.

Carnahan Connections

**Fourth Generation
(Great Grandparents)**



Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan (1830-1914)

Hezekiah Carnahan was born in Pennsylvania, raised in central Ohio, and pioneered into DeKalb County, Indiana. He was a veteran of the Civil War and contracted camp dysentery. Margaret, his wife, was the first white child born in Jackson Township and actually met the legendary Johnny Appleseed.

Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan was born on 11 July 1830 in Mercer (now Lawrence) County, Pennsylvania.⁴⁵ He was the son of Thomas S. Carnahan (1783-1849) and Elizabeth Smith (1788-1864) (see page 17). About 1835, at the young age of five he moved westward with his parents to Richland County, Ohio.

Hezekiah Carnahan was first recorded in the 1850 Census of Richland County, Ohio, living in a house with his widowed mother, older sister Fanny, and younger brother, Wilson, in Butler Township. He was listed as a Laborer and attended school during the year.⁴⁶

In 1855 Hezekiah purchased a farm in DeKalb County, Indiana, and moved here. Travelling with Hezekiah was his mother, sister Fanny, and brother Wilson. They settled on a farm in Jackson Township, where he spent the rest of his life. Hezekiah related to grandson Hugh L. Carnahan "that he came out to Ft. Wayne on a canal boat on the old Wabash & Erie Canal."

Col. Hugh L. Carnahan, grandson of Hezekiah, wrote several family histories of this family, having a first-hand account from these pioneers. We will quote heavily from his writings.

In a Deed dated 29 August 1855, we read, "Edward Freeman and Martha Freeman his wife of the County of DeKalb, and state of Indiana Convey and Warrant to

Hezekiah L. Carnahan the West half of the south East quarter of Section thirty (30) Township thirty-three (33) North of Range thirteen (13) East in said DeKalb County, Indiana, for the sum of five hundred dollars."⁴⁷

Carnahan wrote, "After working around for the local farmers for a short time H. L. purchased the west half of the southeast quarter of the section west of N. 9. across the road from his brother Samuel's farm."

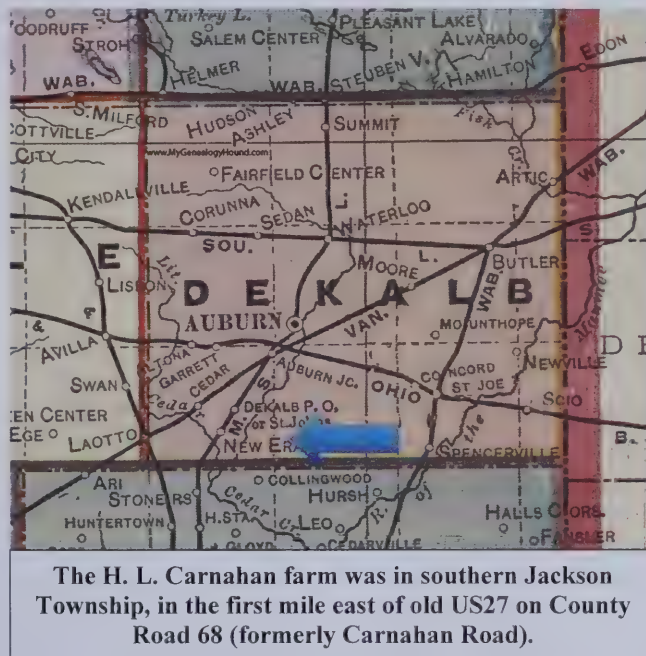
H. L. Carnahan was present at the Center School House in Jackson Township on the 6th day of April 1857 to elect local township officials.

Hezekiah married Margaret A. McNabb on 15 September 1859 in Allen County, Indiana.⁴⁸

Margaret McNabb was born on 21 December 1839 on her parents' farm in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. It is the family tradition that she was the first white child born in Jackson Township. She was the daughter of Jackson Township pioneers William C. McNabb (1814-1876) and Mary Susanna 'Mary Ann' Watson (1815-1853) (see page 21). Margaret posed for a Daguerreotype about 1859 at

age 20. Those who saw it say she was a very pretty girl with long brown hair.

"Her family had settled along an old Indian trail," recounted Col. Hugh Carnahan in his *H. L. Carnahan History*, "and many times the Indians stopped there for water or something to eat. Among her memories was the sight of the legendary Johnny Appleseed stopping at their clearing. At the time he was wearing only one shoe and carrying the other. It seemed that one foot had stepped on



The H. L. Carnahan farm was in southern Jackson Township, in the first mile east of old US27 on County Road 68 (formerly Carnahan Road).

⁴⁵ Carnahan, Hugh L., *Family Tree of Hezekiah Lewis Carnahan*, Auburn, IN, 1958, p. 2.

⁴⁶ 1850 Census of Richland Co., OH, Butler Twp., p. 250-B.


⁴⁷ DeKalb County Deed Record, 29 August 1855.

⁴⁸ Carnahan, Hugh L., *H. L. Carnahan History*, Auburn, IN, p. 1-3.

a toad, and he was punishing it by making it go barefoot.” She resided in Jackson Township all her life.

Hezekiah and Margaret were the parents of four children: William John, Mary Ellen, your ancestor Ebben Thomas (1871-1930) (see page 9) and James Colburn Carnahan.

Hezekiah and Margant [sic] Carnahan are recorded in the 1860 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, living on their farm in Jackson Township, next door to his brother, Wilson S. Carnahan, and in close proximity to his other married brothers, Bailey and Samuel Carnahan. He was a farmer and his Real Estate value was \$800 and the value of his personal estate was \$166. Residing with them were 2-month-old son, William J., and Hezekiah's 60-year-old widowed mother, Elizabeth Carnahan.⁴⁹



(Signature.)

In 1862, as Indiana was preparing for its role in the American Civil War, Hezekiah was listed as eligible to serve military duty in the Jackson Township Militia Enrollment. This record lists him as a farmer at age 25.

An old friend, Samuel Lige, recounted the following in a General Affidavit for a Pension Claim for Hezekiah: “When we first became acquainted the country was new & full with heavy timber & we both cleared up the farms whereon we now reside & in doing so we frequently exchanged works in logging burning & chopping threshing & mowing & in fact almost all kinds of farm work & farm making we worked together side by side we frequently visited each other & he while working for me boarded with me & I when working for him boarded with him also and from these sources & facilities for knowing I believe & have every reason to believe that claimant was at all times before he entered the service of the United States in 1864 a man of good sound health & strength.”⁵⁰

“Hezekiah was drafted for the Civil War,” recounted Hugh L. Carnahan. “He provided for his family by leaving enough wheat for a year’s use piled in one corner of the cabin. At that time families took their own wheat to the mill, brought back the flour from it for their bread.” Only

6% of all Union soldiers were drafted during that conflict. He served as a Private from 1864-1865.

Carnahan continued, “H. L. was assigned to Company A, Capt. Silas Clark’s Company, 13th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The regiment had been badly shot up at Shiloh and had suffered in later engagements, so it was now filled out with drafted men and men from short term regiments whose enlistments had expired. Most of the veterans were given Spencer 7-shot carbines, but grandfather carried a Springfield rifle. He was a willing soldier but the hard life and the monotonous ration of coffee, sugar, hard tack, salt pork, and beans was too much for him. Like many others he acquired the dread camp dysentery, which was to plague him in after years...

“The only battle he participated in was the reduction of Ft. Fisher. This fort protected Wilmington, NC, the last port open to the southern blockade runners. He was sick when the troops went ashore, but he helped dig a trench in the sand with his mess kit, then lay down in it. He was removed to a hospital ship and later to a land hospital. He was given an honorable discharge from the hospital at Goldsboro, NC, on 20 Sep 1865.”

Hezekiah gave this account, in his own handwriting, of his experience in the following Statement in the Case of Invalid Pension on 9 April 1881: “My place of residence has been the same for twenty-six years in DeKalb County state of Indiana. I contracted Chronic Diarrhoea on board the Baltic transport on or about 25th Dec 1864 going to Ft. Fisher under Gen. B. F. Butler have suffered severely at times ever since... “Was discharged Sept 20 1865. Since that have had frequent attacks got medicines of different Physicians (it is impossible for me to give you the dates of these attacks)... “I perform all the labor I can I drive the team to harrow and go to mill and market an husk a little corn and do chore I cannot give you all the dates when I was not able to work suffice it to say that there is no time when I am able to do half what a man should do hoping this will be satisfactory I remain, Hezekiah Carnahan.”⁵¹

Hezekiah’s old friend, Nathan Johnson, submitted the following General Affidavit as a witness in the Pension Claim of Hezekiah: “I was a member of said Co “A”, 13 “Ind” Inf’t Vols as was also said claimant & was well

⁴⁹ 1860 Census of Dekalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 298.

⁵⁰ General Affidavit by Samuel Lige for Pension Claim for Hezekiah Carnahan, 10 August 1887.

⁵¹ Statement in Case of Invalid Pension of Hezekiah Carnahan #346572, 9 April 1881.

personally acquainted with claimant for 26 years & will know that at the date of his being drafted he was a man of good sound health & strength & entirely free from chronic diarrhoea a that I lived within 7 miles of claimant & was intimate in our organization. That on or about the 25th day of December 1864 while on board of a transport vessel from Fortress Monroe to Fort Fisher N. C. claimant became afflicted with a disease known as Diarrhoea & in consequence of said disease claimant was sent to the Hampton hospital near Fortress Monroe. That afterward he was removed to Post hospital at Rolla N. C. whereat I visited claimant & personally know that he was there afflicted with said disease which seemed to then have assumed a chronic form.⁵²

A Declaration For Original Invalid Pension, filed 7 Feb 1880, added that he "was enrolled on the 20th day of September, 1864," and "that his personal description is as follows: Age, 49 years; height five feet ten inches; complexion, Fair; hair, Brown, eyes, Blue."⁵³

Carnahan concludes, "He was never able to do a good day's work after his service time. With a family to support and a farm to clear this was a handicap but they managed to make a go of it and pay for the farm."



This is Hezekiah and Margaret Carnahan in 1897.

Carnahan wrote, "I doubt if a picture or even a sketch of the original cabin ever existed. According to my father [W. J.], it was close to the road and the western boundary of the farm. It was a log cabin, one room on the ground floor, with a sleeping loft above. When it snowed in the winter, the snow would sift through the clapboard roof so

that the mice tracks in it were plainly visible in the early morning light. As was the custom where stone or brick were not immediately available, the fireplace was of wood heavily plastered with clay. The chimney was of the same construction...

"In 1875 the barn was built that still stands [1959]. This took a long preparation of hewing the beams from the trees on the farm with a broadax, hauling logs to the mill for planks and boards, gathering stone from the fields for the walls...

Margaret A. Carnahan

This is Margaret's signature from Hezekiah's Military Pension application.

"When the little boys were about ten years or so old, they were gathered in the kitchen of the old cabin with father and H. L. one rainy morning when grandmother and Mellie were out milking. The thunder and lightning was quite heavy. One bolt struck the stove pipe protruding through the roof and went through the three boys to the ground. All of them were more or less burned and it was six weeks before they were fully recovered. Their cow-hide boots, torn to shreds, hung in the old shop for years."

H. L. and Margaret Carnahan were recorded in the 1870 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, residing on their farm in Jackson Township, next door to his brother and family, Samuel & Elizabeth Carnahan, and four houses from his other brother and family, Baley and Mary Ann Carnahan, and six houses from his brother and second wife, Wilson and Martha Carnahan. H. L. owned real estate valued at \$3000 and personal property valued at \$500. H. L. was working as a Farmer. Residing with them were 10-year-old John and 8-year-old Mary E., both attending school.⁵⁴

Hezekiah L. and Margaret A. Carnahan are again recorded in the 1880 Census of DeKalb County Indiana, living in Jackson Township between farmers William Depew and Charles Comesky, and two houses from his brother, Bailey Carnahan. This census declares him a Farmer. Living with the couple were their four children, 20-year-old J. William, 18-year-old Mary E., 9-year-old Eben, [sic] and 7-year-old James, all attending school,

⁵² General Affidavit by Nathan Johnson in the pension Claim of Hezekiah Carnahan, 26 July 1881.

⁵³ Declaration for Original Invalid Pension #226565.

⁵⁴ 1870 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 323-B.

and Hezekiah's older sister, Fanny, now widowed, and listed as a laborer.⁵⁵

The log cabin was replaced with a new wood frame house in 1881.⁵⁶ Carnahan writes on, "The frame house that replaced the old cabin was typical of those constructed after the Civil War. The lumber came from the farm, one large sycamore tree furnishing all the siding."

Hezekiah L. and Margaret A. Carnahan are recorded then in the 1900 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, living on the family farm in Jackson Township.

The 1910 Census of DeKalb County, shows 79-year-old Hezekiah L. and 70-year-old Margaret A. Carnahan living next door to their son Ebben T. This census also records that he could read and write, and owned his house and farm.⁵⁷

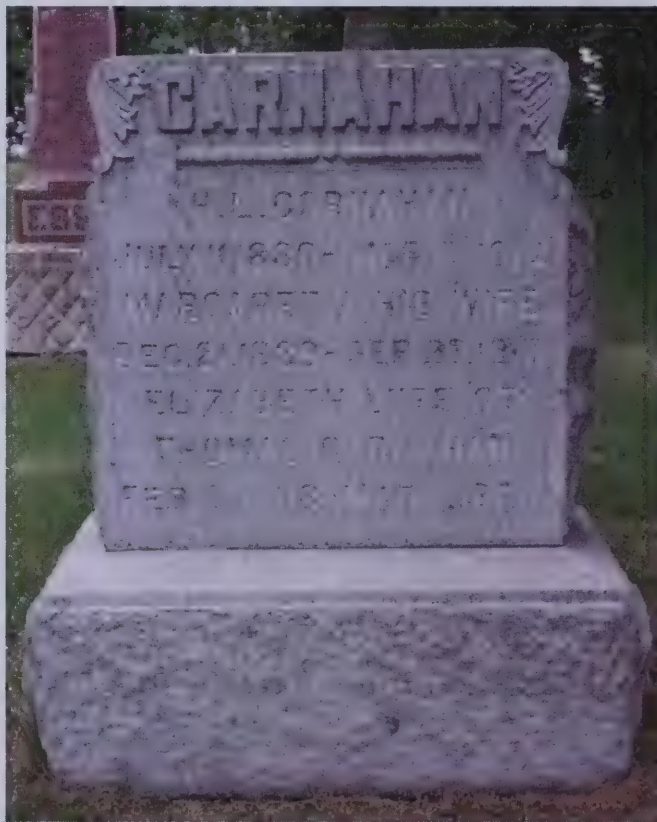
Hezekiah received \$30 per month pension for his military service and disability when he died in 1914.

An 1879 issue of *The Waterloo Press* reports that he was the first president of the new Dekalb County Farmers Mutual Insurance Co. This company was formed on 18 March 1878 to enable area farmers to form their own mutual insurance company.⁵⁸

The Waterloo Press in 1879 reported that he had been nominated as a delegate to the Republican Judicial Convention from the Butler District for 1880, identifying him as a Republican.

Hezekiah died on 7 March 1914 at his home in Jackson County, DeKalb County, Indiana. In a General Affidavit

requesting an increase in pension dated August 27, 1913, his son Ebben and wife reported, "That we have known above claimant for 42 and 20 years respectively and have known his condition during the last sickness at all times by reason of our living in his house or in buildings adjoining all during said sickness, and for the last 5 or 6 years Margaret A. Carnahan has had constant care of him except at times where one of us, or the other children relieves her, and for the past 12 or 15 months he is getting more feeble and helpless, owing to his prostrated condition - and also that Eben T. Carnahan has slept on a night bed or lounge adjoining said Hezekiah Carnahan's room since in April 1911 and he has to go to his bed 3 or 4 times each night, and sometimes is with him all after part of the night. and that he Hezekiah Carnahan is continually growing weaker and requiring closer attention and that owing to his prostrated condition he cannot be left alone any time, night or day."⁵⁹



This is the gravemarker for Hezekiah and Margaret Carnahan in the Greenlawn Cemetery in Auburn.

His obituary reports, "At his late home about six miles south of Auburn in Jackson township Hezekiah L. Carnahan, aged 83 years, died from old age and a complication of diseases at about 3:00 o'clock Saturday morning after an illness of two years."

Following the death of her husband, Margaret lived for another three years on the family farm, sharing the home with her son Ebben and Gertrude, who worked the farm. She received \$20 per month pension from the Department of the Interior for her husband's military service.⁶⁰

Margaret died on 24 September 1917 on her DeKalb County farm, at age 77.

⁵⁵ 1880 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 180-C.

⁵⁶ *DeKalb County Republican*, 1881 issue.

⁵⁷ 1910 Census of Dekalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 9-A.

⁵⁸ *The Waterloo Press*, 1879.

⁵⁹ General Affidavit by Margaret A. Carnahan, 27 August 1913.

⁶⁰ Pensioner Dropped notification document, 22 April 1914.

Carnahan Connections

**Fifth Generation
(2x Great Grandparents)**



Thomas S. Carnahan (1783-1849)

Thomas S. Carnahan was born in Pennsylvania, and pioneered in Ohio. He was a farmer and was a veteran of the War of 1812. His wife, Elizabeth, was an Irish immigrant.

Thomas S. Carnahan was born about 1783 in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.⁶¹ However, Dauphin County was created out of Lancaster County in 1785, so he was actually born in the larger Lancaster County. Various census records say he was born in Ireland, but this is likely in error. He was the son of John T. Carnahan (1772-1805?) and Fanny Wilson (1779?-) (see page 25).

His parents moved westward to Venango County, Pennsylvania when he was just an infant and Venango was just opening for settlement. Thomas was apparently raised on the family farm in Venango Township and then worked his own farm until his departure in 1833.

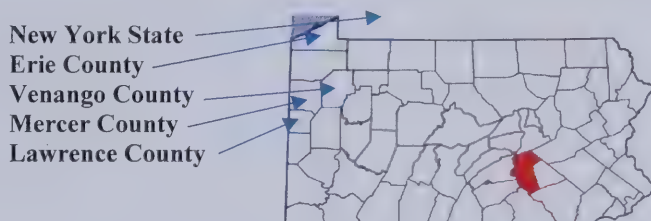
The History of Erie County (which includes surrounding area) records the names of Taxable Citizens of Venango Township for 1800, containing the names of John Carnahan, William Carnahan, and Thomas Carnahan. No Carnahans, however, can be found in the 1790 or 1800 census in Erie County.⁶²

On a list of the Names and Surnames of the Male Taxable Inhabitants within the Eleventh Election District, Venango Township, Erie County, in the year 1810 appear: John Carnahan, William Carnahan, and Thomas Carnahan.

These voted, along with Francis Carnahan, in the General Election held on the Second Tuesday in October 1810.

The total population of this township in 1820 was only 490. In 1959 descendant Hugh Carnahan visited this site and made the following observation: "Tracts mentioned under date of 1811 are in the southeast corner of Greenfield Twp., along the N.Y. border, that of Thomas Carnahan in Venango Twp., under date of 1824 is in the northeast corner of the township, one row of tracts from the New York border. A ridge parallels the border about 200-400 yards from it on the Pennsylvania side. When viewed in May 1959 much of this land is now in a reforestation project and a game farm, for a mile or upwards west of the ridge. From there the land is good

farming land, to the valley of the West Branch of French Creek, gently rolling, few stones now or in old piles or walls. Tract 28 Venango Township once held by Thomas Carnahan shows evidence of a habitation, old well, springhouse, foundations, etc., along the township line before it drops down into New York state. No buildings are there now. About twenty acres around it are cleared. When and by whom occupied was not ascertainable."⁶³



This is a county map of Pennsylvania highlighting Dauphin County in the east central. The map also identifies the counties mentioned in Carnahan's story.

The 'Erie Triangle' was a triangular shaped wedge in the far northwest corner of Pennsylvania that was in dispute with New York State until the Federal Government assigned it to Pennsylvania jurisdiction as Erie County. In these early days county governance for less populated counties was often lead by more populated counties, so records can be confusing.

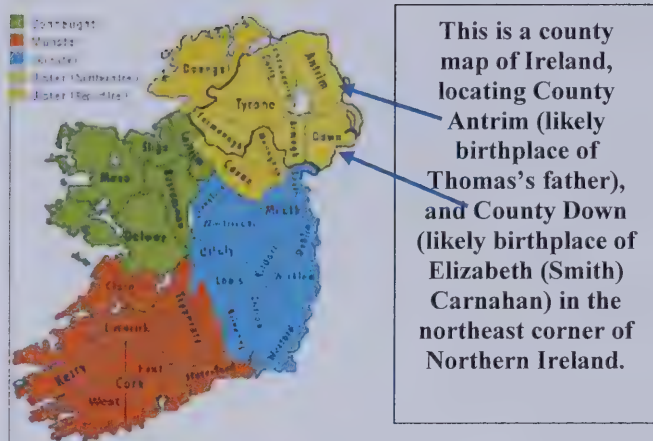
On 14 June 1824 the following record of sale of his land was recorded in the Prothonotary Office in Erie County, Pennsylvania: "Another to Robert Carnahan of the Township of Venango in said county for a part of a certain unseated tract of land situate in the Township of Venango in said County numbered twenty-eight (28) containing one hundred acres more or less in the name of Thomas Carnehan for the sum of seven dollars and seventy-six cents being the exact amount of costs and taxes."

Thomas married Elizabeth Smith in 1809. Elizabeth was born in County Down, Ireland on 5 February 1788. Tradition says she was the last child in the family born in Ireland, before the family immigrated. Nothing is known of the immigration date.

⁶¹ Carnahan, Hugh, *Carnahan Notes*, Auburn, IN, 1959, p. 5.

⁶² *History of Erie County*, Warner Beers & Co., 1884.

⁶³ Prothonotary Office Records, Erie Co., OH, Book A, p. 5.



Elizabeth was the daughter of Irish immigrants William Smith (1751-1841) and Rosanna Smyth (1764-1840) (see page 29).

Thomas and Elizabeth were the parents of 9 children together: Abner, William John, Bailey D., Samuel Smith, Fanny, James Marion, Elizabeth, your ancestor Hezekiah Lewis (1830-1914) (see page 13)), and Wilson S. Carnahan.

War broke out with Great Britain in 1812 and Erie County was an anticipated place of attack. Thomas was a soldier under General Harrison during the war and took sick at Fort Defiance, Ohio, but afterward returned to the army and was honorably discharged. The *Pennsylvania Archives* record, "Pay roll of an infantry company commanded by Capt. John Collom [Collam] under command of Gen'l William H. Harrison in the Winter of 1812-13, 2d Brigade commanded by Gen. Crooks marched to the North Western Army, commencing 2nd Oct. 1812 and ending April 2, 1813: Line 49 Thos. Carnehan, Sergt. 6 months [Enlistment Period], Discharged Nov. 7, 1812. On the receipt roll of the same company covering the extra pay from the state of Penna., also for volunteering to serve 15 days after expiration of 6 months, Thomas Carnahan, Disc."⁶⁴

On the "Receipt Roll of a company of militia commanded by Lt. Robert Davison 136th Regiment Penna. Militia commanded by Lt. Col. John Phillips under orders of Maj. Gen. Mead, Jan 1, 1814, ending Feb. 6: Thomas Carnahan, Priv." He received 10 dollars per month, receiving 11 Dollars and 66 2/3 cents for 1 month, 5 days service. Also serving in this enlistment was his brother, Robert Carnahan.⁶⁵



This is the typical attire of the Pennsylvania militia soldier during the War of 1812. When Carnahan took sick at Fort Defiance (Defiance, Ohio), he was on a campaign against the Indians siding with the British.

Recorded on the "Pay Roll of a Company of Militia Commanded by Capt William Dickson of the 136 Regiment 16 Division of Penna Militia on a Tour of duty at Erie by order of Major Gen David Mead July 24th 1814": "6, Thomas Carnihan, Priv.; 24 July-4 Aug.; No. day, 12; Pay for Month, 10; Amt of Pay, \$4.00. Certified by Lt Col. Phillips"⁶⁶

If Thomas Carnahan saw any action in that war, it was with the native Americans the British paid to harass Americans on the frontier. Carnahan was 29 in 1812.

Prior to 1830 Thomas moved west a bit to Mercer County (now Lawrence) Pennsylvania. A Thomas Carnahan is recorded in the 1810 Census of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, living in Mahoning Township, but is totally illegible. It is not certain if this is our Thomas or a relative. He is found again in the 1820 Census of Mercer County, in Mahoning Township. In this 1820 record, we find one male age 26-45 (Thomas was 37), and three males under age 10 (Abner (8), William (8), and Bailey (4)), one female age 26-45 (Elizabeth was 32), and an unknown female under age 10.⁶⁷ This census implies there was another girl in this family who died in her childhood. This is feasible because there is a gap of nine years between identified children.

⁶⁴ *Pennsylvania Archives*, 6th Series, Vol. VIII, p. 184.

⁶⁵ *Pennsylvania Archives*, 6th Series, Vol. X, p. 75.

⁶⁶ Payrolls for the Defense of Erie, 1813-1814, p. 203.

⁶⁷ 1820 Census of Mercer Co., PA, Mahoning Twp., p. 129.

If this is the correct Thomas, and we think it is, then he left Erie County for Mercer County shortly after his 1809 marriage and long before the 1833 date suggested by previous researchers.

In this 1820 Census he was living next door to Joseph Carnahan (born 1800-1810) and five dwellings away from John Carnahan (born 1790-1800). Joseph and John were both adult sons of David Carnahan. The only explanation for their close proximity is that they were likely cousins, David and Thomas's father, John, being brothers. If this is so, David and John were both born in Randallstown, Antrim County, Ireland. This needs further research.

Thomas is found also in the 1830 Census of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, still living in Mahoning Township. He is recorded as a male age 40-50 (Thomas was 47), one female age 20-40 (Elizabeth was 42), 2 males age 10-15 (William was 18 & Bailey was 14), one female age 10-15 (Fanny was 5), one male age 5-10 (Samuel was 6), one female age 5-10 (Elizabeth), and two males under age 5 (James was 5 and Hezekiah was newborn). The oldest son, Abner, was either dead or emancipated (he would have been age 18). Also living next door to Thomas in 1830 was Hezekiah Smith, Elizabeth Carnahan's brother, and likely namesake for their son Hezekiah.⁶⁸

Thomas migrated westward again into Richland County, Ohio in 1835. In his *H. L. Carnahan History*, Col. Hugh Carnahan writes, "Little is known of the circumstances of the family at this time, but it is likely that they were farmers raising their own living from the land. Whether

they owned their own land or were tenant farmers has not been determined."

The 1840 Census of Richland County, Ohio, records Thomas Carnahan living in Clearcreek Township. Thomas was engaged in Agriculture. This census records one male 60-70 (Thomas was 57), one male 15-20 (Samuel was 16), one male 10-15 (James was 15), two males 5-10 (Wilson was 7 and Hezekiah was 10), one female 15-20 (Fanny was 15), and one female 10-15 (Elizabeth was under 15), and one female 30-40, but Elizabeth was about 52.⁶⁹



These are the descendants of Thomas and Elizabeth Carnahan at a reunion in 1897. Seated (left to right) are Elizabeth (Hotchin) (widow of Samuel), Mary Ann (McNabb) (widow of Bailey), James M. and wife, Lucinda (Lighthill) Carnahan. Standing: Wilson, Margaret (McNabb) and Hezekiah Carnahan. Note that no one was overweight and all the men wore long beards. (Photo courtesy of Liz Winsley)

As to religion, the family were Seceders, a very strict sect known locally as the Seceders.⁷⁰ Seceders were founded in Scotland by a group who were dissatisfied with the Presbyterian Church. Moving from Scotland to western Pennsylvania, Thomas Campbell organized a Seceder movement here, which continued to grow under his son, Alexander Campbell. The Seceders were the forerunner of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Churches of Christ. Campbell believed all churches should be self-autonomous and focused upon weekly communion. They were weak in structured doctrine and believed Christianity should be



This is a county map of Ohio highlighting Richland County in the north central.

⁶⁸ 1830 Census of Mercer Co., PA, Mahoning Twp., p. 134.

⁶⁹ 1840 Census of Richland Co., OH, Clearcreek Twp., p. 107.

⁷⁰ *History of Tuscarawas County, Ohio*, Warner, Beers & Co., Chicago, IL, 1884, p. 573/4.

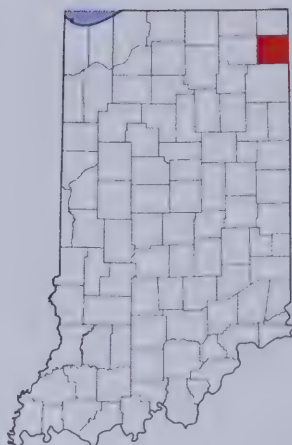
more mental assent than emotional (as opposed to the Great Awakening movement).⁷¹

Thomas had powerful shoulders and arms and small hands and feet and was very quick and active. At the age of 65, his last harvest, he cut with a sickle and bound 30 dozen sheaves of wheat per day, working steadily the entire harvest.

Thomas died on 6 March 1849 in Erie County, Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1848, he started to Erie County, Pennsylvania, on a visit. He rode with his son, Hezekiah, then a boy of 17, on a load of wheat to Milan and made the rest of the journey on foot. He was taken sick while there and died on 6 March and is buried somewhere in Erie County, Pennsylvania.⁷² No one knows the location.

The new widow Elizabeth Carnahan [sic] is recorded in the 1850 Census of Richland County, Ohio, still living on a farm with her daughter, 25-year-old Fanny, and sons, 20-year-old Hezekiah and 16-year-old Wilson, both listed as Laborers but attending school.⁷³

In 1855 she moved westward into Indiana with her sons and their families to settle on a farm in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, just one mile north of the Allen County line. Elizabeth Carnahan was recorded in the 1860 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, residing at the home of her son, Hezekiah Carnahan and family, within close proximity to her other married sons, Bailey, Samuel, and Wilson Carnahan.⁷⁴



This is a county map of Indiana highlighting DeKalb County.



Elizabeth Carnahan is buried with her son and wife, Hezekiah and Margaret Carnahan in Evergreen Cemetery in Auburn.

Lynn Carper notes that “she had a mind and temper of her own”, whatever that meant.⁷⁵

Elizabeth died on 8 March 1864 at the home of her son Ebben Carnahan in Jackson Township. She is buried with son Hezekiah and Margaret Carnahan in Evergreen Cemetery in Auburn, Indiana.

⁷¹ Mead, Frank S., *Handbook of Denominations in the United States*, Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN, 1985, p. 73-74.

⁷² Carnahan, Hugh, *Carnahan Notes*, 1959, p. 5

⁷³ 1850 Census of Richland Co., OH, Butler Twp., p. 250-B.

⁷⁴ 1860 Census of DeKalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 297.

⁷⁵ Lynn Carper, Carnahan descendant.

William C. McNabb (1814-1876)

William McNabb was born in Pennsylvania, moved to Ohio, then settled in DeKalb and then Allen Counties, Indiana. He was a mason and farmer and was married twice.

William C. McNabb was born on 9 August 1814⁷⁶ somewhere in Pennsylvania. He was the son of John McNabb (1792-1887) and Mary *Unknown* (1787-) (see page 31).

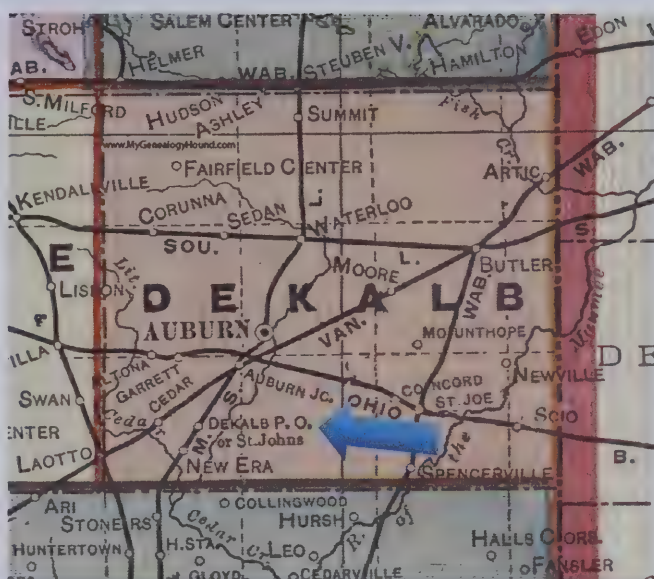
William, then 16, is probably one of the two 15-19-year-old boys recorded in the in the 1830 Census living with his father, Jno McNab [sic], in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania.⁷⁷

At the age of 19 William moved westward with his parents into Richland (now Ashland) County, Ohio about 1833. The *Valley of the Upper Maumee Valley* says he, “began work as a mason and continued until he got money enough to enter 160 acres of land.”

About 1836 he again moved westward into Dekalb County, Indiana.

William McNabb received a Land Grant in 1838, to wit: "Whereas William McNabb of Richland County, Ohio, has deposited in the General Land Office of the United States, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Fort Wayne, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said William McNabb, according to the provisions of the Acts of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled 'An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands,' for the South half of the North East quarter of Section twenty eight in Township thirty-three North of Range thirteen East [Jackson Township, DeKalb County] in the District of lands subject to sale at Fort wayne, Indiana, containing eighty acres." This grant was dated 20 August 1838.⁷⁸

“He came to Indiana with only \$5 in money. En route one of his oxen dying he had to yoke up one of his cows to finish the journey. He had the pleasure on one occasion by ambushing behind a tree, to kill one of the bears which infested the woods, with his ax.”



The land grant McNabb received from the federal government was in the center of Section 28 of Jackson Township.

William married Mary Susanna Watson in 1838.⁷⁹ Mary Ann, as she was known, was the daughter of DeKalb County pioneer William Watson, Jr (1790-1864) and Susannah Keffer (1792-1849) (see page 33). Mary Ann was born on 22 September 1815 in Ohio.

William and Mary Ann were the parents of five children together: Susanna, your ancestor Margaret A. (1839-1853) (see page 13), John, William James, and an unnamed infant McNabb.

Col. Hugh Carnahan, in his *H. L. Carnahan History* recounts of their daughter, Margaret, "Her family had settled along an old Indian trail and many times the Indians stopped there for water or something to eat."⁸⁰

William McNabb was the earliest of our ancestors to move to DeKalb County. The 1840 Census records only 1,978 persons in the entire county.

⁷⁶ Flint, Alberta Minor, *A Collection of Cemetery Inscriptions Allen County, IN*, p. 47.

⁷⁷ 1830 Census of Huntingdon Co., PA, Warrior's Mark Twp., p. 59.

⁷⁸ US Government Land Grant, Cert. #21085.

⁷⁹ Yashar, Diana Elaine, *Hursh Family Home Page*, p. 24.

⁸⁰ Carnahan, Hugh L., *H. L. Carnahan History*, 1956, p. 1.

The Auburn Courier, in its Centennial Issue [24 Feb 1876], recounts the early history of Jackson Township: "About the center the first settlers were old Mr. Essig, Joseph Walters, who still lives there, and Wm. McNabb, who now lives a few miles south in Allen County."⁸¹

William McNab [sic] is recorded in the 1840 Census of DeKalb County residing most likely in Jackson Township (although not noted). Residing here were one male aged 20-30 (William was 26), 2 females under age five (Susannah was 4 and Margaret was newborn), and one female age 20-30 (Mary Ann was 25). One adult was engaged in Agriculture and one adult could not read or write. Another source reported that this farm was near the center of Jackson Township.⁸²

William and Mary McNabb are next recorded in the 1850 Census of DeKalb County, residing on a farm in Jackson Township, with real estate valued at \$1,400. This was a mid-sized farm. William could read and write and was working as a farmer. Residing with them were 12-year-old Susan, 10-year-old Margaret, 6-year-old John, and 4-year-old William, all attending school. Also residing here was 25-year-old Samuel Young, a Laborer who may have been related.⁸³

Wm McNabb [sic] was present at the Center School House in Jackson Township on the 6th day of April 1857 to elect local township officials. While in DeKalb County he served as county commissioner, and also as justice of the peace about eight years. He was also elected as the second Constable of Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana.

Mary Ann gave birth to her 5th child in September 1853 and the child did not survive. Mary Ann died one month later, probably from complications of that childbirth. This left William with five young children to care for.

William remarried Fanny Carnahan (brother to Hezekiah Carnahan) (see page 13) three years later in 1856. Fanny was the daughter of Thomas S. Carnahan (1783-1849) and Elizabeth Smith (1788-1864) (see page 17).



This is Mary Ann (Watson) McNabb's new and old gravemarkers in the Watson Cemetery in rural DeKalb County. Many of the old gravemarkers in this remote cemetery have been damaged or have sunken into the ground and are not visible.

William and Fanny were the parents of another two children: Mary Elizabeth and Charles McNabb.

In 1859 they sold out in DeKalb County and moved to a farm a few miles to the south in Cedar Creek Township, in Allen County, Indiana. The *Valley of the Upper Maumee River* records, "he came to Allen county and bought 120 acres and cleared the most of this. Here he remained until his death in 1876."⁸⁴

Descendants of William Watson records, "Their farm was located on both sides of the McNabb Road just west of State Road #1. It was here that Margaret, John and James were born."⁸⁵

McNabb Road runs North/South from County Road 45 in DeKalb County to State Road 1 (Leo Road) in Cedar Creek Township.

William and Fanny McNabb were recorded in the 1860 Census of Allen County, living on that farm in Cedar Creek Township. His family here consisted of 36-year-old Fanny, 18-year-old John, 13-year-old James, and one-year-old Mary. William was recorded as a farmer and his

⁸¹ *The Auburn Courier*, 24 February 1876.

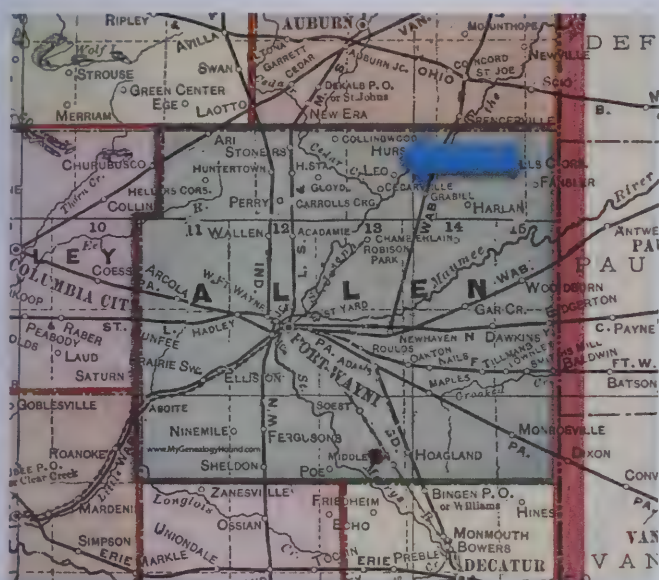
⁸² 1840 Census of DeKalb Co., IN. p. 499.

⁸³ 1850 Census of DeKalb Co., in, Jackson Twp.

⁸⁴ *Valley of the Upper Maumee River*, Brant & Fuller, Madison WI, 1889, Vol. I, p. 349.

⁸⁵ Dyson, Patricia, *Roots-Branches-Twigs (A Family Tree of Watsons Pioneering in DeKalb County, IN)*, Auburn, IN, Sec. 11.

real estate was valued at \$1,500, and personal estate (livestock) at \$500. Living with them were 26-year-old James McNabb and his 24-year-old wife, Elizabeth, and their one-year-old daughter, Ella. Living next door were William's brothers 38-year-old Robert McNabb and 28-year-old William C. McNabb.⁸⁶



McNabb lived on a farm at this location in Cedar Creek Township near several siblings.

William and Fannie [sic] McNabb are last recorded in the 1870 Census of Allen County, Indiana, still living in Cedar Creek Township. He was listed as a farmer with real estate now valued at \$5,000 and personal property \$943. Living with them were 11-year-old Mary and 9-year-old Charles, both attending school. Next door lived James McNabb, likely another relative.⁸⁷

This farm was located on the McNabb Road. He purchased land from D. Shambaugh jointly with George W. Hursh on 20 November 1869.

They were members of the local Methodist Episcopal Church.

William died 28 September 1876 at his home in Cedar Creek Township in Allen County, Indiana, at the age of 62. He is buried at Old Leo Cemetery, Leo, Indiana.



This is the William McNabb headstone in the Old Leo Cemetery in Leo, Indiana.

Fanny Carnahan [sic] was last recorded in the 1880 Census of DeKalb County, Indiana, residing on the farm with her brother and family, Hezekiah L. and Margret A. Carnahan, in Jackson Township. She was 59, widowed, and working as a laborer on her brother's farm.⁸⁸

Fanny died on her brother's farm on 16 February 1887. It is not known where she is buried.

⁸⁶ 1860 Census of Allen Co., IN, Cedar Creek Twp., p. 209.

⁸⁷ 1870 Census of Allen Co., IN, Cedar Creek Twp., p. 209.

⁸⁸ 1880 Census of Dekalb Co., IN, Jackson Twp., p. 180C

Carnahan Connections

**Sixth Generation
(3x Great Grandparents)**



John Carnahan (1756-1804)

John Carnahan was likely the immigrant ancestor on the Carnahan side, coming from Ireland. He was probably a veteran of the American Revolution and farmed in Dauphin, then Erie Counties, Pennsylvania.

There is no record of John's birth, but the 1800 Census says he was between 26 and 45 years of age (born 1755-1774). To have the children he had he was likely born about 1756. According to Griffith's Valuation 100% of all Carnahans lived in Antrim County, Ireland.⁸⁹ However, some researchers believe he was the son of immigrants William Carnahan and Eleanor Jack.

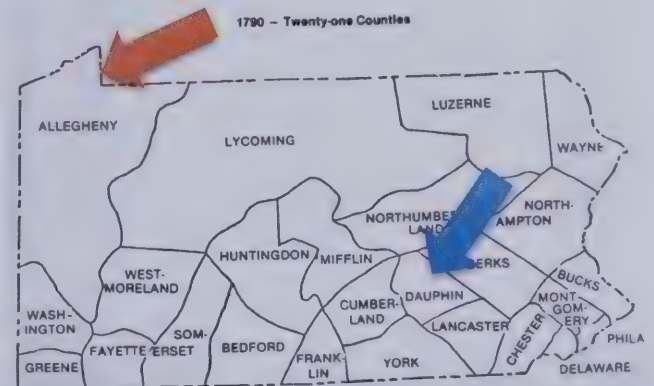
Hugh L. Carnahan's family history⁹⁰ concludes that the family originated in Ireland and migrated for refuge to Scotland between 1558-1760, with a large number of others, for economical, religious, political or personal crisis reasons.

A 1919 history of Venango County, Pennsylvania, relates the following interesting origin of the Carnahan families in Ireland: "The first authentic knowledge of the family dates to 1540, when three Irish tribes or clans named Carnochan, Carnaghan and Carnathan, respectively, entered into an agreement to unite for their mutual protection. According to tradition they had previously lived as most tribes of the times, preying on their weaker neighbors and levying tribute in lands, cattle and servants. Their habitation was on the rough and stormy coast of the north of Ireland, and the wreckage of vessels driven ashore formed one of their chief sources of revenue; they were even accused of luring boats ashore by means of false lights. It is said that when these tribes had no common foe they fought each other, greatly diminishing their numbers by these perpetual feuds. When the great religious reformation spread over Ireland, they embraced the Calvinistic faith, uniting in 1540 under the leadership of James Alexander Carnahan, and they defended their belief with the same vigor, that they had prosecuted their earlier enterprises, having numerous pitched battles with the soldiers of Mary Tudor (1553-1558). In the last year of her reign their chief was slain and the clan was almost exterminated, their goods and lands being confiscated to the crown, and many suffering imprisonment or death. Of those who took refuge in Scotland, one group settling in Dumfries, the other in Aberdeen. The former branch

became weavers by occupation the latter hewers of stone or stone-masons, owning and working large quarries."

Following extensive research by Hugh Carnahan in the 1950s, he commented: "The numerous mentions of the family name in the records and writings of the Pennsylvania area during the period 1700-1800 show that the family was quite large, old, and had come from various areas in the British Isles. The refugees who escaped Ireland by going to Dumfries and Aberdeen lived with and intermarried among the Scotch for two centuries. We always considered ourselves Scotch. I have talked with Catholic Carnahans. Perhaps those that could not escape Ireland in 1558 reverted to the Catholic religion or some now unknown branch of the Kernahan family is their origin."

John Carnahan married Fanny Wilson between 1774 and 1784. Fanny is a common nickname for Frances. Nothing is known of her parents or background, but she is thought to have been Irish.



This is the Pennsylvania county breakdown in 1790. Dauphin County is in the east central portion (blue arrow) and Allegheny County is in the remote northwest corner (red arrow).

John and Fanny were the parents of six known children: William, Elizabeth 'Betsy', your ancestor Thomas (1783-1849) (see page 17), Robert, Francis, and Catherine Carnahan.

An example of life in America for these Irish immigrants was County Donegal immigrant James Crockett (Ance-

⁸⁹ Griffith's Valuation 1847-1864.

⁹⁰ Carnahan, Hugh, *Carnahan Notes*, 1959, p. 11.

tor of Davy) and his wife Hannah. They purchased over 100 acres of land in western Pennsylvania, after Crockett struggled for nearly 20 years as a Philadelphia stonemason.

In an 1822 letter to his father in Ireland, Crockett wrote: "Twelve years ago, for \$2.00 an acre, I bought the land where I now live. It looked a wild, uncultivated place to make a living, nothing but trees and bushes to be seen. But I went to work with my axe and grubbing hoe, and soon felled as many trees as would build a house and clear enough ground for our first crop. It is killing on nature to work outdoors in this country, the summers are so hot and the winters so cold, but I now have 30 acres cleared, 20 cattle, and a good harvest. We are happy and contented. Our house is small but our barn is full. Thank God I came to this country where we are free from landlords, rent and the fear of eviction."⁹¹



John Carnahan likely served in a frontier militia unit defending settlements from British-supported Indian attacks. These militia units dressed in buckskin and provided their own weapons.

John was 20 years old when the fires of Independence swept across the colony of Pennsylvania in 1776. "He was present at the Battle of Brandywine, where the soldiers crossed that turbulent little river on the bodies of the slain; the water was stained with blood for five miles. He served under General Washington during the entire war and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown," recounted Hezekiah Carnahan. There being no military record of his service in the Continental Army, it is doubtful that he served under Washington throughout the entire war. If John was indeed a soldier in the American Revolution, he likely served in a local militia unit in

support of the Continental Army. That would explain why he moved west immediately after the War (bounty land for veterans).

The earliest confirmed record of this John Carnahan was in 1782 when he lived in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. In the 1790 Census, the first census of the United States, after John moved westward from Dauphin, there are two William Carnahans residing there. One may be his father. Each have 2 males over 16, 1 male under 16, and 4 females recorded.⁹² This next generation remains unconfirmed.

Dauphin County was formed in 1785, two years after John and his family left for Erie County. John, James and William Carnahan, under various spellings, were on the 1785-1791 tax lists in Londonderry Township, Dauphin County. These names are very likely relatives left in Dauphin County after the move; however, there is yet no verification of a previous generation or their connections.

John moved his family westward into Erie County, Pennsylvania in 1783. The family at this point included son William, daughter Betsy, and newborn Thomas. Venango Township was settled by its first inhabitants in the 1790s. If John and his family moved here in 1783, they must have been among the very first settlers in this wilderness region.

Prior to 1803, all lands west of the Alleghany Mountains and northward where Erie County now lies were designated as Allegheny County. John Carnahan [sic] is recorded in the 1790 Census of Allegheny County, residing in Pitt Township. Living here were one male over age 16 (John), one male under age 16 (William), and two females (Fanny and Betsy).

John Carnihan [sic] is next recorded in the 1800 Census of Allegheny County, residing in Deer Township. His family now consisted of 1 male 26-45 (John), 1 male 10-16 (William), 1 female 16-26 (Fanny), one female 10-16, and two females under 10 (Catherine). This census implies there was another daughter in this family than we have not accounted for.⁹³

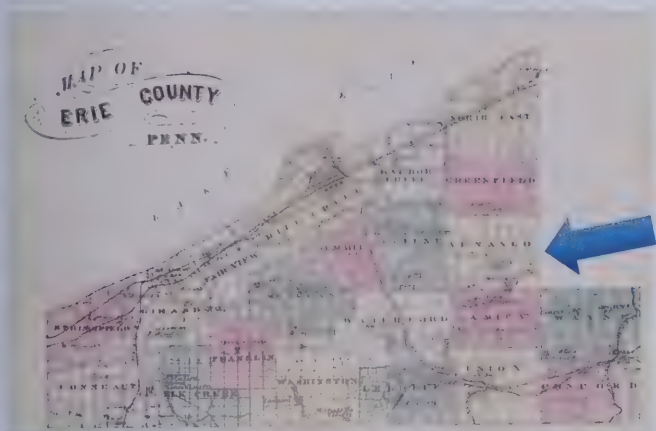
The *History of Erie County, Pennsylvania* records the following about the church John's family likely attended: "The Middlebrook Church, the first house for religious

⁹¹ Deignan, Tom, Pennsylvania's Irish, *Irish America Magazine*, January/December 2008.

⁹² 1790 Census of Dauphin Co., PA, p. 197 or 194.

⁹³ 1800 Census of Allegheny Co., PA, p. 145/146.

worship in the county, stood about a mile and a half north of Lowville, along the Wattsburg & North East road, upon a tract of two acres deeded by John Warren to the congregation, to be held as long as used for church and cemetery purposes. The first services, held in August 1801, in the woods on the east bank of the West Branch, near a spring now owned by Enos Mann, were attended by every man and woman in the township, the young men having previously cleared the ground and provided a pulpit and seats by chopping down and squaring the timber. At their conclusion, a motion by John Hunter that a church building be erected, was eagerly adopted. On the next Thursday, all the able-bodied men and boys met, concluded upon a site, and put up a structure -- all within the same day -- which though more modest than modern churches, doubtless afforded the people as much satisfaction. The first church was replaced in 1802, by another of more pretentious style, built of hewed and split logs. Services were regularly held in this building." This church appears to have been a Presbyterian Church.



This is a map of what is today Erie County, Pennsylvania. Hugh Carnahan says the Carnahan farm was at the east edge of Venango Township along the border with New York.

"The records of the Land Office at Harrisburg do not show John Carnahan as being an original patentee, so he must have purchased land from someone that had already secured his land from the state," reported Hugh Carnahan. "On March 25, 1823, on a Sunday morning, the first courthouse of Erie Co. burned down taking with it all the early records therein."

The *History of Erie County* records the names of Taxable Citizens of Venango Township for 1800, containing the names of John Carnahan, William Carnahan, and Thomas Carnahan.⁹⁴

On a list of the Names and Surnames of the Male Taxable Inhabitants within the Eleventh Election District, Vanango [sic] Township, Erie County, in the year 1810 appear: brothers John Carnahan, William Carnahan, and Thomas Carnahan. These three voted, along with another brother, Francis Carnahan, in the General Election held on the Second Tuesday in October 1810.

"He was able to travel for days at a time with unerring certainty through the trackless forests of his day," recounted Hugh Carnahan, who had interviewed John's grandson, Hezekiah Carnahan.⁹⁵

John died about 1806, but there is no record of that death. And there is no record of Fanny's death, either.

The site of John's burial is unknown. Hugh Carnahan searched the nearby cemeteries of Lowville and Little Hope, then called Greenfield, about two miles north of the township line in Greenfield township, without finding any Carnahan grave markers. He concluded, "It is probable that they were buried on their own land as was the custom in early times. These usually disappear in time when the land is in the hands of others."

⁹⁴ *History of Erie County, Pennsylvania*, Warner Beers & Co., 1884, p.705.

⁹⁵ Carnahan, Hugh, *Carnahan Notes*, 1959, p. 10.

William Smith (1751-1841)

William Smith was your Irish immigrant in this family line and farmed in Mercer County in northwestern Pennsylvania.

William Smith (or Smyth) was born in 1751 in Down Township, Down County, Ireland, making him a contemporary of President James Madison.

He married Rosanna Smyth before 1782 in Ireland. They had one or two children born in Ireland before coming to America.

Rosanna was born about 1764 in Ireland. Nothing is known of her parents or birth-place.

William and Rosanna were the parents of eight children together: Sarah 'Sally', unknown, unknown, your ancestor Elizabeth (1788-1864) (see page 17), Samuel, William John, James M., and Hezekiah Smith.

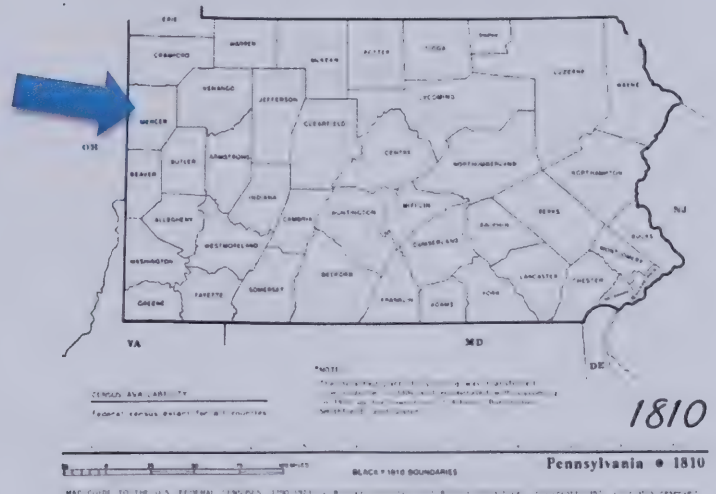
Tradition says they immigrated to America between 1788 and 1796. This was after the United States became an independent country and encouraged immigration to take up lands further westward in the States. Although there is no record of their immigration, they likely entered the country through the Port of Philadelphia. Typical reasons for immigration from Ireland at this time were religious freedom (Presbyterians were persecuted) and a chance for a better future.

The first confirmed record of William Smith was in the 1800 Census when he was living in Mercer County, Pennsylvania. Residing here were two males under ten (Samuel and William John were about 3), one male aged 26-44 (William was 49), one female under 10 (Elizabeth was 12), and one female aged 26-44 (Rosanna was 36).⁹⁶



In this map of Ireland counties, County Down is located at the northwest corner of Northern Ireland.

The 1810 Census records Wm Smith [sic] in the 1810 Census of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, residing in Wolf Creek Township. Residing here were two males under 10 (James was 10 and Hezekiah was 6), two males 10-15 (Samuel and William John were about 13), one male over 45 (William was 59), two females under 10, one female 10-15, and one female 26-44 (Rosanna was 46).⁹⁷



In this Pennsylvania county map from 1810, Mercer County was located at the far west border of the state.

From this point the research gets difficult as another William Smith took up residence in neighboring Wolf Creek Township of Mercer County. They were both about the same age and have similar family structures. We can be lost in sorting them out until we read the two separate Will records in 1841 and 1844 respectively. They were likely cousins. Our ancestor was clearly the one who lived in Mahoning Township.

William was 61 years old when hostilities with Great Britain led to the War of 1812. He did not serve in that conflict but was likely enrolled in the local militia to guard against Indian attacks, which were common in Mercer County. Concern would have been British attack from the North across Lake Erie.

William Smith is recorded next in the 1820 Census of Mercer County, Pennsylvania, now residing in Mahoning Township. Residing here were one male 10-15 (Hezekiah

⁹⁶ 1800 Census of Mercer Co., PA.

⁹⁷ 1810 Census of Mercer Co., PA, Wolf Creek Twp., p. 910.

was 16), one male 16-25 (James was 20), one male over 45 (William was 69), one female 10-15, and one female over 45 (Rosanna was 56). There were now several William Smiths in Mercer County, making research even more difficult.⁹⁸

William Smith is again recorded in the 1830 Census, still living in Mahoning Township of Mercer County, Pennsylvania. Living here were one male 20-29 (probably James), one male 60-69 (William was 79), and one female 70-79 (Rosanna was 66).⁹⁹

Rosanna died in January of 1840 at the old age of 76. William Smith is not recorded in the 1840 Census when he was 89 and was likely living with one of his adult children. That census lists only Heads of Household.

William signed a Will on 4 February 1840, and it was proven 22 May 1841, signifying he died between those dates. In that Will he mentioned five children: Samuel, William John, Hezekiah, Betsy Carnahan, and Sally Davidson. This proves the ancestral connection to Elizabeth (Smith) Carnahan. He signed his name William Smyth [sic]. This indicates he was literate but raises questions as to the spelling. He is possibly the William



This is a typical pioneer home in the rugged mountains on laundry day about 1810.

Smith buried in the Mahoning United Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

In 1849 Mahoning Township was reassigned from Mercer County to Lawrence County, Pennsylvania. Records are, therefore, found in both County Records.

There is no confirmed record of their burial.

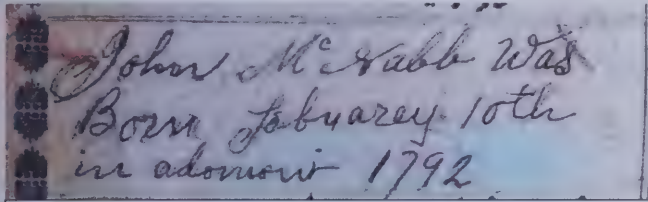
⁹⁸ 1820 Census of Mercer Co., PA, Mahoning Twp., p. 139.

⁹⁹ 1830 Census of Mercer Co., PA, Mahoning Twp., p. 128.

John McNabb (1792-1860)

John McNabb was born in Pennsylvania and worked in some form of business until he settled in farming. He later moved westward where he pioneered into Richland (now Ashland) County, Ohio.

John McNabb was born on the farm of his parents on 10 February 1792, in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. He grew to adulthood on this Appalachian plantation. He was the son of Irish immigrants William McNabb (1765-1839) and Margret Unknown (1761-1824) (see page 37).



This is John's birth record from the William McNabb Family Bible, probably in his mother's handwriting. The old English phrase 'a domini' (anno domini) means "in the year of".

John married a Mary, possibly Mary Young, about 1810. She was four years older than John. Her parents cannot be confirmed so we cannot follow this line back any further.

John and Mary were the parents of eight children together: John, your ancestor William C. (1814-1876) (see page 21), James, David, Mary A., Ebenezer B., Robert, and Reuben McNabb.

John McNab [sic] is first recorded in the 1820 Census of Centre County, Pennsylvania, residing in Spring Township (located near the center of the county). Living here were 4 males under ten (John was 9, William was 6, James was 5, and David was about 10), one male 26-45 (John was 28), three females under 10 (Mary was 1 and Margaret was 3), and one female 25-45 (Mary was 33). John was engaged in Commerce (some kind of business).¹⁰⁰

Immediately next door was John's apparent younger brother, William McNab [sic]. William was between ages 16 and 26 and his wife was between age 26 and 45. William had one daughter under ten.



This map shows the county divisions in Pennsylvania in 1820. Centre County is located in the dead center of the state. It was created in 1800 from parts of several other counties, next to Huntingdon and Mifflin.

Jno. McNab [sic] was next recorded in the 1830 Census of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, residing in Warrior's Mark Township. Warriors Mark is at the north of Huntingdon, butting against Centre County. Residing here were one male 30-40 (John was 37) and one female 40-50 (Mary was 43), two males under 5 (Robert was 4 and Reuben was 1), two males 5-10 (Ebenezer was 6 and David was 10), one male 10-15 (John was 14), two males 15-20 (William was 16 and James was 15), two females 10-15 (Mary was 10 and Margaret was 13), and one unidentified female 15-20. John was by then engaged in Agriculture.¹⁰¹

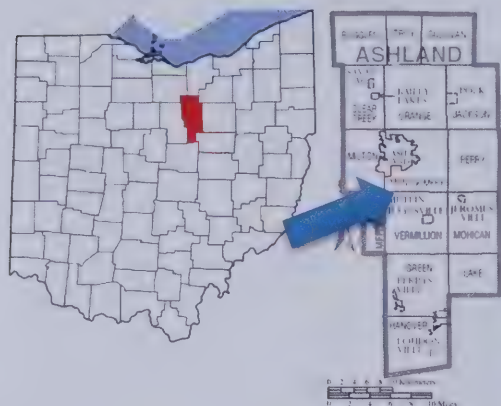
Sometime between 1830 and 1840 the family moved west into Richland County, Ohio, where they purchased a 64-acre farm near the center of the county. This was not a land grant and they likely purchased it from a land speculator, likely with a cabin already constructed. In 1840 the United States suffered its first major economic depression, called the Panic of 1840. If John was still working that business he had in 1820, that may have been the instigation for moving to Ohio.

John McNabb was recorded next in the 1840 Census of Richland County, Ohio, residing in Vermillion Township. He was engaged in Agriculture. His family consisted of

¹⁰⁰ 1820 Census of Centre Co., PA, Spring Twp., p. 266.

¹⁰¹ 1830 Census of Huntingdon Co., Warriors Mark Twp., p. 59.

two males 5-10, one male 10-15 (Reuben was 11), one male 15-20 (Ebenezer was 16), one male 20-30 (John was 24), one male 40-50 (John was 48), one female 5-10, one female 20-30 (Mary was 20), and one female, 50-60 (Mary was 53). There were likely other children unidentified.¹⁰²

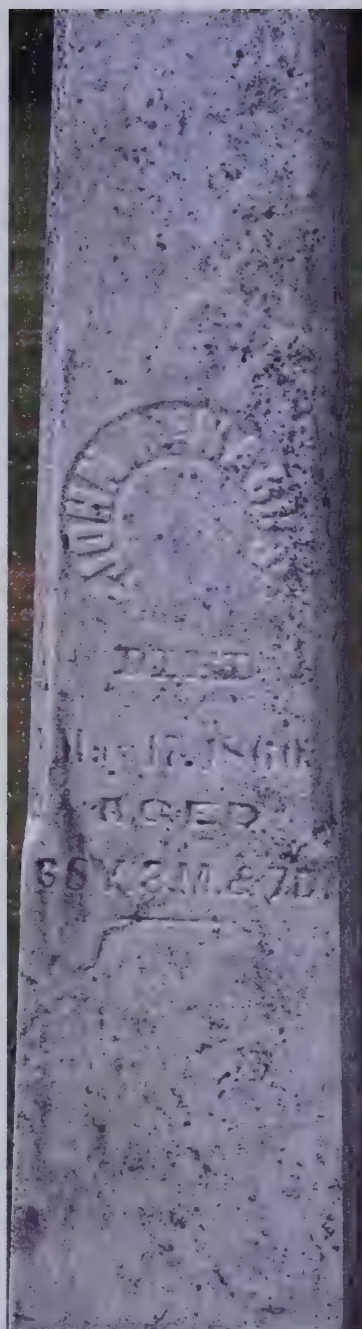


At left is a map of Ohio counties highlighting Ashland County in the north central portion. At right is a map of Ashland County identifying Vermillion and Montgomery Townships.

Vermillion Township was reassigned from Richland to Ashland County in 1846.

John McNab [sic] is recorded in the 1850 Census of Ashland County, Ohio, residing in Vermillion Township. John was working as a farmer and owned real estate valued at \$1,500. Residing here with him were his 60-year-old wife, Mary, 30-year-old daughter, Mary A., and her 1-year-old son, Orland. In a later census this son was recorded as Orlin Craig. It is not known if Orland was an illegitimate son or if Mary was a young widow or was abandoned.¹⁰³

John signed a Will on 7 January 1860, and it was proved on 20 June 1860, signifying



This tall column is John McNabb's gravemarker in Ohio. Note his name is misspelled 'McNABUS'.

he died between those dates, and was literate. He left to his unnamed wife the homestead, use of the house and all furniture, two cows, and five head of hogs.

Also, in this Will he named his ten children: John McNabb, the heirs of Margaret Shroads, William McNabb, Nancy Dunfee, the heirs of James McNabb, Mary Ann McNabb, David McNabb, Ebenezer McNabb, Robert McNabb, and Reuben McNabb, confirming the family structure.

John had purchased a 120-acre plot in Iowa which he Willed to be sold and the proceeds divided equally among his ten children.¹⁰⁴ Apparently, real estate in the developing States was a sound investment strategy in this time era.

In the 1861 Plat map this farm was identified as 64 acres in the East Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 4 in Vermillion Township in Ashland County. There were two houses located on this land.¹⁰⁵

John died on 17 May 1860 in Montgomery Township, Ashland County, Ohio. He died at age 68, identifying his birth year as 1792. He died from injuries he suffered from a fall two years earlier.¹⁰⁶ It is not known which cemetery in Ashland County they are buried in.

Mary McNabb, 73 and widowed, was recorded in the 1860 Census of Ashland County, residing on the family farm, valued at \$3,000, in Vermillion Township. Residing with her was her daughter Mary S., and grandson, Orlin Craig.¹⁰⁷

Although there is no record of Mary's death, she likely died a few years later in the early 1860s.

¹⁰² 1840 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 39.

¹⁰³ 1850 Census of Ashland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 404-A.

¹⁰⁴ Ashland County (OH) Wills, p. 67/68.

¹⁰⁵ 1861 Plat Map of Ashland County, Ohio.

¹⁰⁶ 1860 Mortality Schedule, Ashland Co., OH.

¹⁰⁷ 1860 Census of Ashland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 130-B.

William Watson, Jr. (1790-1864)

William Watson was born in Maryland, pioneered into Ohio, then finally settled in DeKalb County, Indiana. He was a farmer.

William Watson was born 4 April 1791 in Maryland.¹⁰⁸ He was the son of William Watson (1767-1830) and Mary Whittington (1760-1841) (see page 39). He was raised in Frederick County, Maryland on his father's plantation. Although unnamed, he is likely listed residing with his father in the 1810 Census. William was both a Junior and a Senior.

It is the family tradition that William was a veteran of the War of 1812. He was the correct age to have served. I can find no record of him serving in Ohio. I also cannot prove for certain that he served from Maryland, either. So, we will leave it as folklore than he served in that war.

Between 1810 and 1813 William moved westward into the new state of Ohio. It was here that William married Susan Keffer (or Keever) on 5 May 1813 in Jefferson County, Ohio.¹⁰⁹



The arrow shows the route from Frederick County, Maryland to Jefferson County, Ohio. They likely took a water route down the Ohio River.



This is a map of Ohio highlighting Richland County in the North Central portion, where Mansfield is located.

Susan was born about 1792 somewhere in Virginia. Her parents are unknown and we cannot follow this family

line back any further. Unfortunately, the 1810 Census of Ohio has not survived, so we cannot determine what Keever or Keffer family may have resided here.

William and Susan were the parents of four known children: your ancestor Mary Ann (1815-1853) (see page 21), Matilda, Margaret, and William, Jr. Watson. There were likely other children unaccounted for.

By 1820 William Watson was recorded in the 1820 Census Richland County, Ohio, living near his father, William Watson, and his brother, Walter Watson, in Vermillion Township. They all lived next door to another William Watson, perhaps a cousin. William was here recorded as age 26-45 (William was actually 30), living with his wife, Susannah (age 28), and 5-year-old Mary Ann, and another unnamed son 0-10. This unknown son likely died at an early age.¹¹⁰

William Watson, now age 40, was still in Richland County, Ohio, living near five other Watsons in the family in 1830. The 1830 Census of Richland County, Ohio, records William living in Vermillion Township. This census records one male age 30-40 (William was 40), one female 30-40 (Susan was 38), one male 10-15 (may have been a boarder working on the farm), one male age 0-5 (William, Jr. was about three), one female 15-20, one female 10-15 (Mary Ann was 15), and two females 5-10 (Margaret was about 5, and Matilda was about 7).¹¹¹

¹⁰⁸ *History of DeKalb County, Indiana, Interstate Pub. Co., 1885, p. 631.*

¹⁰⁹ Ohio, US County Marriage Records, 1774-1993.

¹¹⁰ 1820 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 219.

¹¹¹ 1830 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 132.

Wm Watson [sic] is recorded in the 1840 Census of Richland County, Ohio, still residing in Vermillion Township. Residing here were one male 10-15 (William Jr. was about 13), one unidentified male 20-30, one male 50-60 (William was 50), one unidentified female 10-15, one female 15-20 (Margaret was about 15), two females 30-40 (Mary Ann was 25 and Matilda likely a bit older), one female 40-50 (Susan was 48), and one female 70-80 (likely one of the grandmothers). Possibly the unidentified persons were other yet unidentified children in this family, or possibly hired servants. William was engaged in Agriculture and resided a few houses away from John McNabb, father of William's future son-in-law, and nearby several other families who would also soon migrate westward into Jackson Township in DeKalb County, Indiana.¹¹²



This is a 1908 map of DeKalb County, Indiana, locating the William Watson farm in southeastern Jackson Township.

William Watson received a Land Grant in 1840, to wit: "Whereas William Watson of Richland County, Ohio, has deposited in the General Land Office of the United States, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Fort Wayne, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said William Watson, according to the provisions of the Acts of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled 'An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands,' for the East half of the North East quarter of Section twenty seven, in township thirty three

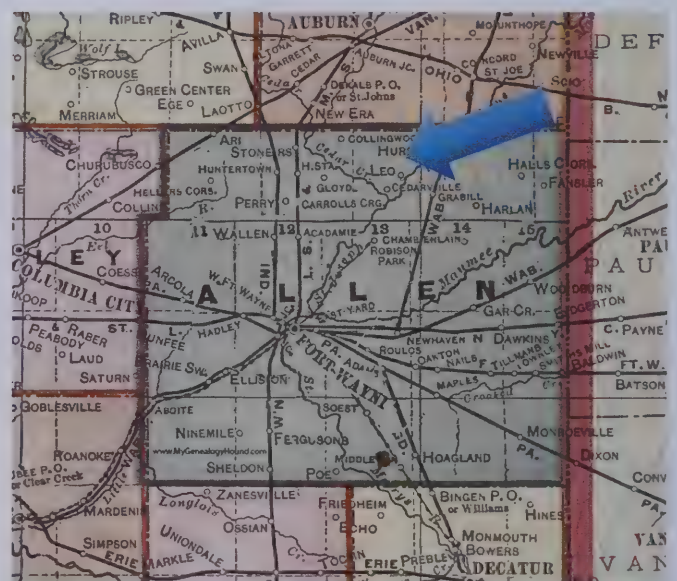
North of Range thirteen East [Jackson Township, DeKalb County], in the District of lands subject to sale at Fort Wayne, Indiana, containing eighty acres."¹¹³

This was followed by a second 160-acre Land Grant for land described as "the North half of the North East quarter and the North half of the Southeast quarter of Section twenty eight in Township thirty three...containing one hundred and sixty acres", both dated 10 November 1840.

The 1914 *History of DeKalb County, Indiana* states that "The first religious service held in Jackson township was at the home of William Watson in 1839, and the preacher was Rev. James T. Robe, of the Methodist Episcopal denomination." No church was founded from this first meeting, but shows the spiritual inclination of this Watson family.¹¹⁴

Susan died 3 April 1849 on this farm in DeKalb County, Indiana. She was 57.

The following year William moved his family a few miles to the south to Cedar Creek Township in Allen County by 1850. 60-year-old William Watson, now widowed, was recorded in the 1850 Census of Allen County, Indiana, residing on a farm in Cedar Creek Township, living with 24-year-old Margaret Watson, 18-year-old Mary Hursh,



In this 1908 map of Allen County, Indiana, the home of William Watson is located at the northeast corner of Cedar Creek Township, near the DeKalb County line.

¹¹² 1840 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 39.

¹¹³ US Government Land Grants, #23552 & 23553.

¹¹⁴ *History of DeKalb County, Indiana*, B. F. Bowen & Co., Indianapolis, IN, 1914, pp. 202/203.

and 9-year-old John Hursh, next door to 23-year-old son William Watson, Jr. and two homes away from 24-year-old nephew William Watson, both laborers. That census lists the value of Real Estate at \$5,000, a good-sized farm. Neither William nor Margaret could read or write.¹¹⁵

70-year-old William Watson is last recorded in the 1860 Census of Allen County, Indiana, still living on the Cedar Creek Township farm. His total Real Estate had devalued to \$1,000 and Personal Property was valued at \$100. Living with him were 33-year-old Margaret, 5-year-old Matilda Fairfield, and 18-year-old John W. Hursh. He was residing next door to William Watson, Jr.¹¹⁶

William died on 24 April 1864 in DeKalb County, Indiana, at the age of 74.¹¹⁷

Jackson Township Deed Transfers records a William Watson selling 80 acres, the E. 1/2 of SE 1/4 23-33-13 (Jackson Township) to John S. Moore in 1864, the year William died. This may have been the land he owned. This land also may have been owned by William's son, William, Jr.¹¹⁸

William and Susan are buried in the Watson Cemetery in rural DeKalb County, Indiana.



This is William Watson's gravemarker in the old Watson Cemetery in southern DeKalb County. Note that it has been damaged and reset into a new foundation. Note also that his grave is being treated as a veteran.

¹¹⁵ 1850 Census of Allen Co., IN, Cedar Creek Twp., p. 551.

¹¹⁶ 1860 Census of Allen Co., IN, p. 374.

¹¹⁷ Dyson, Patricia, *Roots-Branches-Twigs (A Family Tree of Watsons Pioneering in DeKalb County, IN)*, Auburn, IN,

Sec. 11.

¹¹⁸ Jackson Township Deed Transfers.

Carnahan Connections

**Seventh Generation
(4x Great Grandparents)**



William McNabb (1765-1839)

William McNabb was the original immigrant in this family line, coming from Ireland. He married another immigrant and settled in central Pennsylvania where he farmed.



This is a map of Ireland locating Ulster Province in Northern Ireland (red) and Londonderry County in the far North (blue arrow)

William McNabb was born somewhere in Ireland on 22 August 1765. The McNabb name is of Scottish origin, the original name being Mac Nab, meaning "of the abbey". According to an 1890 Census of Scots in Ireland, 69% of McNabbs were living in Ulster Province, so he likely came from Ulster.

William immigrated to the New World in 1786, at age 21, into Philadelphia. An unidentified early history of the

McNabb family records that William, "Sailed from London Derry for Phil'a Pa, 1786."¹¹⁹ Londonderry was a port city in Northern Ireland.

Aboard that ship coming over, he became acquainted with Margaret Mitchel. Margaret was engaged to a young man and they had eloped to come to America. She and her fiancé quarreled and broke off their engagement. She was a Catholic and he ridiculed her prayer beads (rosary). The series of beads on her rosary were a prayer guide.

The new United States gained independence from Great Britain by a peace treaty in 1783. The British, however, still considered these colonies their own. This led to the follow-up War of 1812. The British dominated Ireland and forced the state church (Anglican) upon Irish citizens, leading to a persecution of both Catholic and Presbyterian faiths. This led to a migration of persecuted peoples coming to America where they were promised freedom of religion.

William married Margret Mitchel on 24 March 1789 in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania. She was 4 years older than William, which is a welcomed aide in identifying this William McNabb family from others, especially his son of the same name who moved into Tennessee. William was a Presbyterian and was apparently tolerant of Margret's Catholic traditions and use of her rosary. We can find no record of their church engagement or how her Catholicism may have influenced their children. There were no Catholic churches in these central Pennsylvania regions at this early time.

Margret was born on 6 March 1761, probably in Ireland. The unidentified early McNabb History states, "Margaret was the daughter of Lord Mitchel. She was eloping; had a step-mother at home, but she and her Fiance quarreled and when she came to this country, she had to make her living. She had never done work at home, only spinning and fine embroidery, etc. and so she went from home to home doing that kind of work."

Nothing is known of her father, Lord Mitchel, but he must have been an aristocrat (Lord), and Margret must have left a very comfortable life to step into a humble one.

William and Margret were the parents of six children together: William, your ancestor John (1792-1860) (see page 31), Carson, James, Nancy, and Robert McNabb.

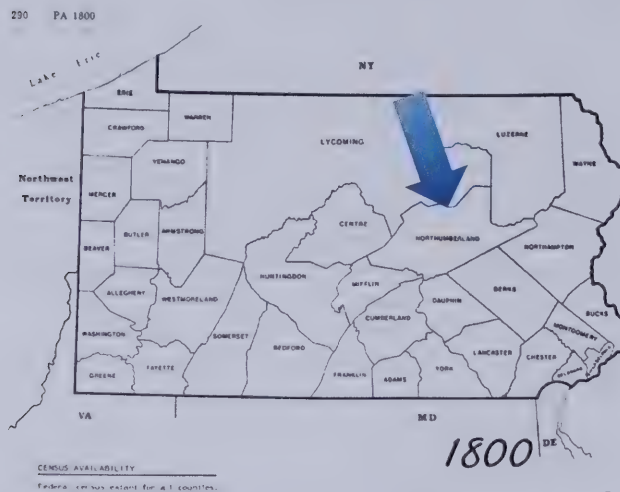
This is likely the William McNat [sic] recorded in the 1790 Census of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, residing in the Hopewell, Newton, Tyburn or West-Pennsboro District. Residing here were one male over 16 and one female. Their first child, John, was born in January and should have been recorded, so this may not be our William McNabb.¹²⁰

William McKnap [sic] is next recorded in the 1800 Census of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, residing in Penns Township. Residing here were two males under ten (William was 10 and John was 8), one male 26-45 (William was 45), one female under ten (Nancy was

¹¹⁹ Unidentified old McNabb Family History found on Ancestry.com.

¹²⁰ 1790 Census of Cumberland Co., PA, Hopewell, Newton, Tyburn, Westpennsboro Twps., p. 39.

1), and one female 26-45 (Margaret). This leaves Carson and James missing and they may have died young.¹²¹



This is a county map of Pennsylvania State in 1800, identifying Northumberland County at the east central part of the state.

William McNabb was then recorded in the 1820 Census of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, residing in Union Township. Residing here were one male under 10 (Robert was 10), one male 10-16 (James was 13), one male 26-45, and one male over 45 (William was 55), one female 10-16 (Nancy was 11), and one female over 45 (Margret was 59).¹²²

Margret died on 30 October 1824 at the age of 63. The next census implies William remarried a second wife with a family by 1830.

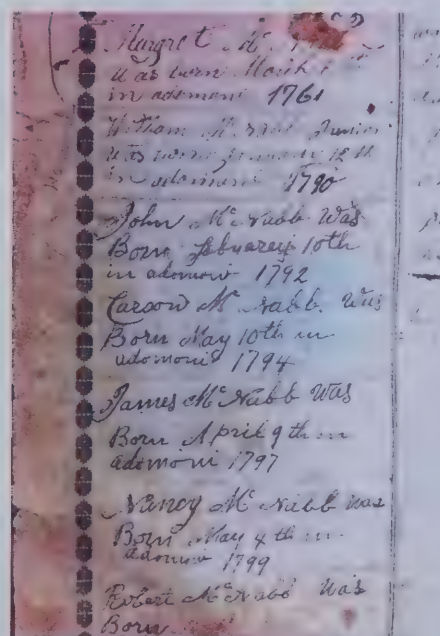
William McNabb was last recorded in the 1830 Census of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, residing on a farm in Union Township. Residing here were one male under 5, one male 10-15, and one male 60-70 (William was 66), one female under 5, one female 10-15, one female 30-40, and one female 60-70. The family structure here implies William had married a new wife and had some stepdaughters.¹²³

William died fifteen years after Margret on 1 May 1839 at age 73. There is no record of that second wife.

¹²¹ 1800 Census of Northumberland Co., PA, Penns Twp., p. 739.



This is an 1820 county map of Pennsylvania identifying Mifflin County which had absorbed parts of Northumberland County.



This family birth record is from the William McNabb Family Bible and confirms the family structure.

There is no record of their burial and they are likely buried on their own farm in unmarked graves. Often these early graves were marked by simple unmarked field stones, which were later removed by new owners to make way for fields or buildings.

¹²² 1820 Census of Mifflin Co., PA., Union Twp., p. 190.

¹²³ 1830 Census of Mifflin Co., PA, Union Twp., p. 458.

William Watson, Sr. (1767-1830)

William Watson was born somewhere in eastern Maryland, moved west to the panhandle of the colony, and later settled in Jefferson County, then to Richland County, Ohio. He was a farmer.

William Watson was born about 1767 in colonial Maryland. It is supposed that the first Watson immigrant came into Maryland in the early 1700s from Wales, although this has not been proven. William is likely descended from the large Watson family of Maryland, but the link has been lost, so we cannot track this line back further.

William married Mary Whittington prior to 1785 (first son was born in 1785), but the marriage record does not survive.

Her gravestone says she was age 71 (meaning she was born in 1770). Mary was the daughter of Queen Anne County plantation owner John Whittington (1708-) and Mary Pritchett (see page 41). She was raised on the plantation with her parents and several slaves.¹²⁴ Both the Whittington and Pritchett families had been in Maryland for a generation or two, but the links have been lost and we cannot track them back to the immigrant ancestors.

William and Mary were the parents of nine known children: John Whittington, James Whittington, your ancestor William, Jr. (1791-1864) (see page 33), Walter, Samuel, Matilda, Mary, Nancy Elinor, and Eleanor Watson.

We cannot conclusively find William Watson in the 1790 Census of Maryland, although there are many with this name in various counties. Our William Watson is first recorded in the 1800 Census of Frederick County, Maryland, living in District #3. Recorded here is one male aged 26-45 (William was age 33), one female aged 26-45 (Mary was 50), 2 males age 10-16 (John was 11), three males under 10 (James W. may fit in either age group, William, Jr. was 10, Walter and Samuel were 4), one female under 10 (this is either a daughter who died or Matilda, who is recorded born in 1802), and one female aged 16-26 (likely a relative assisting the mother). This still leaves us a son which is unaccounted for in this census, likely one who died before reaching adulthood.¹²⁵



This is a 1776 map of colonial Maryland showing Frederick County in the western panhandle. This region was rugged and mountainous in 1800.

W. Watson [sic] was next recorded in the 1810 Census of Frederick County, Maryland. This census records 1 male over 45 (William was 43), one female over 45 (Mary was 40), three males 16-26 (William, Jr. was 20), 1 male 10-16 (Samuel was 14), 1 male under 10, 1 female 26-45, 1 female 16-26, and five females under ten. The discrepancy of the family numbers here could be the result of sons James and John being married and having their wives and daughters living there, as well (In 1810 John was married to Elizabeth Simpson and had daughter Thirsy); James was likely older still.¹²⁶

Between 1810 and 1820 William and Mary moved westward across Pennsylvania and the panhandle of West Virginia into the new state of Ohio. By 1820 they had settled on a farm in Richland (now Ashland) County, Ohio. It was here that they remained the rest of their lives.

William is recorded in the 1820 Census of Richland County, Ohio, living in Vermillion Township. He is listed as being over 45 (actual age was 53). Living with him are one male age 16-26 (Samuel was 24), one female over 45 (Mary was 50), two females aged 16-26 (Matilda was 18), and two females ages 10-16 (Eleanor was 10 and Mary was 14). The other female aged 16-26 may have been

¹²⁴ Maryland Colonial Census 1776.

¹²⁶ 1810 Census of Frederick Co., MD, p. 414.

¹²⁵ 1800 Census of Frederick Co., MD, Dist 3, p. 118.



This is a county map of Ohio highlighting present Ashland County, where the Watson farm was located.

another child or hired help for the aging William and Mary. One of these persons was recorded as a foreigner not naturalized.¹²⁷

Descendants of William Watson says he died in 1836, but in the 1830 Census of Richland County, Ohio, Mary is recorded living alone with her daughters, implying that William had died prior to that. There is no Will on file.

Mary Watson is recorded in the 1830 Census of Richland County, Ohio, living nearby other family members in Vermillion Township. Recorded here were one female 60-70 (Mary was 60), two females 20-30 (Mary was 24), and one female 15-20 (Eleanor was 18 or 20).¹²⁸

Although unnamed, Mary was likely the 70-79-year-old woman residing with son William Watson in the 1840 Census of Richland County, Ohio, residing in Vermillion Township. This was the home farm and nine people lived in this house. Living nearby were several other families that soon moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, including the Carnahans and McNabbs.¹²⁹

Mary died here the next year in 1841 at the age of 71 years. She is buried in the Eckely Cemetery in Ashland County, Ohio.



This is the gravemarker for Mary Watson in the Eckely Cemetery near their farm in Ashland County, Ohio.

¹²⁷ 1820 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 217.

¹²⁸ 1830 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 132.

¹²⁹ 1840 Census of Richland Co., OH, Vermillion Twp., p. 39.

Carnahan Connections

**Eighth Generation
(5x Great Grandparents)**



John Whittington (1708-)

John Whittington was born in Maryland and worked a plantation with 6 slaves. We can find little information on him except for a colonial census taken in 1776.

John was likely born about 1708 in colonial Maryland. It is said that he is the son of John Whittington and Jane *Unknown* or Johanna *Unknown* (his two wives), but our John is not mentioned in the older John's Will, so we can discount that. He is likely descended from Capt. William Whittington (1620-1700) and Margery Rowbotham (1620-1700), who immigrated into colonial Maryland about 1640 from Nottingham County, England, but the link has been lost and we cannot prove descendancy.

John married Mary Pritchett (or Pritchard) in Maryland. The oldest known son was born in 1750, so they were married before then. Mary is likely descended from Welch immigrants John and Abigail Pritchett, who immigrated into Dorchester County, Maryland in about 1669. The link has been broken, however, and cannot be proven. The Pritchett family can trace its roots unbroken back to 520 A.D. in Wales, and are descended from royalty.¹³⁰

John and Mary were the parents of four known children: John, Nancy, your ancestor Mary (1760-1841) (see page 39), and James Whittington. There were likely other children in this family.

John Whittington is recorded in the Maryland Colonial Census in 1776 residing in Queen Anne's County in eastern Maryland. Residing here were one male over 21 (John was 68), one male under 12, 1 female over 21, and 6 Blacks.¹³¹



This is a map of Maryland highlighting Queen Anne's County.

The American Revolution began in 1776 but John was too old to fight in that conflict. We do not know if he was supportive of the independence movement or if he was a loyalist, as were many Marylanders.

We cannot find any other record of his life or his death.

¹³⁰ Maryland Genealogies, Vol. 2, p. 294-295.

¹³¹ 1776 Maryland Colonial Census, Queen Anne's Co.

My Own Notes

My Own Notes

